

# Governor Baxter School for the Deaf

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## Falmouth, Maine

**Owner**

State of Maine Bureau of General Services

**Architects**

Barba + Wheelock Architects

**Completion Date**

2004

**Construction Cost**

\$2.7 million

**Total Area**

10,000 sf

**LEED Certification Level**

NC 2.1 Silver

**Services Provided**

LEED Consulting



Fore Solutions, acquired by Thornton Tomasetti in 2012, was the LEED consultant for a new school for deaf children, designed as the first structure belonging to the state of Maine Bureau of General Services to be LEED registered. The project is a one-story, 10,000-square-foot school building located on Mackworth Island, Falmouth, across the harbor from Portland, Maine.

The design of the school took advantage of many unique daylighting strategies including a domed skylight that diffuses natural light throughout the main corridor and a central corridor that allows natural light to meet classrooms. Continuous light shelves brighten deeper spaces like the library. These strategies together resulted in a 30 percent energy savings for the school.

Completed in September 2004, the school also incorporated energy efficient mechanical systems, recycled and local materials, and landscaping and construction practices that limit site disturbance and preserve the unique qualities of the site. The island is a popular recreation spot maintained by the state as a conservation area with beaches, fishing sites and walking trails.