

Case Study

DC Prep Academy



Details

Location: Washington, D.C.

Description: 4,496 square-feet of
Carnival Ultra Tiles®

Project Needs

Soft, safe surface for
children to play

Rooftop safety surfacing

Wide variety of pattern and
color options

Project Benefits

Attractive

Wears well/durable

Easy to repair and replace

Eco-logical



DC Prep Academy's New Playground Earns High Marks



DC Prep Academy is a charter school in Washington, D.C. that consists of the three schools, serving 1,100 students in preschool through eighth grade. Admission is free, and the school's mission is to bridge the local area's educational divide by providing students from underserved communities with the academic skills and character necessary to succeed in competitive high schools and colleges. With such a high regard for children, it's no surprise DC Prep selected PlayGuard, one of the industry's leading safety surfaces, when it was time to create a new recreation space for its students at its Edgewood Elementary Campus.

"The school took over an old warehouse," said Scott DuBois, President of Southern Playground, the company involved with the playground installation. "The school was really limited with space and parking. Part of solving this problem was building a parking deck. DC Prep decided to turn the top floor of parking deck into a dedicated, open play space."

Four-thousand-four-hundred and ninety square feet of PlayGuard Carnival Ultra Tiles® in caramel corn, rock candy, funnel cake, and blueberry pie were installed. PlayGuard is a recycled rubber surfacing manufactured in the U.S.A. by Ecore. Any design inspiration or playful color scheme can be implemented with PlayGuard's custom color and logo capabilities.

"The school needed the tiles to be safe, in case the kids fell," said DuBois. "On one side of the play area, we installed tiles with alternating colors to create lines for a basketball court. The other side is a general space with water jet cut hopscotch patterns and the words 'DC Prep.'"

PlayGuard's exclusive Quad Blok interlocking system offers reliable easy-down and easy-up installation. Quad Blok modular connectors feature precisely located openings that interface with the corner leg understructure PlayGuard tiles. These connectors are quick and easy to use without adhering to or causing damage to playground substrates and allow for the removal or replacement of individual tiles with minimal disruption and labor.

DC Prep Academy ultimately selected PlayGuard, because it is ideal for rooftop installations. "The architect involved with the project did research on different types of surfaces and made suggestions," said DuBois. "The architect selected PlayGuard, because the rubber membrane on top of roof needed to remain in-tact and could not be compromised. The PlayGuard tiles float across the rooftop without impacting the membrane."

In addition to being attractive and safe, PlayGuard is also extremely durable and features the safety surfaces industry's only 15-year warranty.

