Located among the hills of Pomona, CA, this dramatic high school was the result of a design competition sponsored by the school district. The campus was designed on an “unbuildable” hillside site acquired by the school district for $1. A $13 million grading project created 30 usable acres on the steep slope at a fraction of the cost of condemned urban land in the district.

The exciting forms and massing of the individual buildings could only be cost-effective with structural steel frames. Dramatic features include a trussed 65’ cantilevered element, which beckons to the school’s main entry from the Administration Building. The exposed steel trusses in the gymnasium offer a strong aesthetic while achieving an innovative structural design. To maximize usable square footages, many buildings feature large steel-framed cantilevers.

In the interest of controlling energy management at the site’s sunny hillside location, the majority of exterior wall surface area was placed below grade to minimize direct heat gain. The resulting structure is highly energy-efficient.
JURORS’ COMMENTS

The application of metal siding achieves a cohesive composition of elements, and underscores the fresh geometry. Beautifully-detailed, elegant, well-proportioned forms.