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K-12: Making Better Choices

Schools face many challenges when choosing new flooring materials. VCT has been a workhorse for many years and this initial low cost material is understood as a "tried and true" product by maintenance staffs. But it is one of the most expensive materials to maintain over its lifecycle and offers no aesthetics or acoustical properties to the end user. Carpet tile and LVT have been growing in popularity by leaps and bounds in the educational arena because of its low maintenance practices and curb appeal. It is a flooring evolution.... Read on to understand how these innovative products are providing health and safety benefits while changing the look and performance of our school systems.



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BLUE anyone?

The use of color in learning environments is key. It can add warmth, fun and a school's brand, but if done improperly it can be a disservice. For example, you would not use a strong red in classrooms or a library where you wanted the students to focus, regardless if it is your school brand. When selecting colors to promote concentration and productivity consider a strong blue. Blue is an intellectual color that can clear the mind and promote communication. In general, 57% of Men and 35% of women agree that they gravitate towards things that are blue.

Warm and luminous colors produce centrifugal action, whereas soft and cool colors create a passive effect - permitting better concentration. Here are 5 colors that work well for school environments. These colors can enhance productivity and help create a semi-relaxing and comfortable ambiance.

- MOSS GREEN : Provides comfort, especially if you're working alone. Great for libraries and nurses and guidance counselor's offices.
• LIGHT ORANGE : Evokes excitement, creativity and happiness.
• BLUE : Can help you stay focused and productive for long periods of time.
• GRAY : A soothing and calm color that won't trigger any strong emotions. Works as a great neutral to ground the color palette.
• MAGENTA : Sparks creativity and keeps you motivated and focused on creative projects. Add a pop to your environment & see what happens!

Contrasting colors make it harder for people to focus their eyes on task oriented assignments and bright warm colors can raise stress levels and blood pressure. Whether you are consciously aware or not, your behavior, energy level and comfort can be triggered by what you see.... Not just by how you feel.

Check out Sherwin Williams Color Trend Report for Schools for more info:

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2017 Education trends

Reinvention is the new norm these days. We can learn anywhere with online institutions and handheld devices at our fingertips. This year, we will see this expand past classroom walls for more emphasis on community outreach and blended learning. The concept of anywhere, anytime learning will gain increased focus and will be integrated more fluidly with in-class instruction, and students will have more opportunities for making real-world connections with learning through outreach, community connections, and global collaborations. Students are also becoming online content creators and when parents are engaged as partners with the school system the student is bound to win! This blog is timely and elaborates further. Check it out!

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PARflooring & PARsolutions feel honored to be a "go to" vendor for the following prestigious institutions, among many other NJ public sector K-12 schools and universities



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