

TAMPA SCHOOLS

THE PROBLEM

The Hillsborough County School Board recently constructed of two identical four story elementary schools. Deer Park School in Westchase was built in 2006 and Oak Park in East Tampa in 2007. The water penetration problems due to a defective stucco bond began almost immediately. The following quote is from Cathy Valdez, Assistant Superintendent, in the Tampa Tribune April 23, 2013 addition and describes the problem:

“The problem with both buildings, the facilities director said, is that the stucco did not adhere to the concrete block. Inspectors found cracks when the schools were built, she said, but were told the cracks were cosmetic and not structural.

The cracks were more serious than that, though.

“Water just sought the cracks and has traveled throughout the buildings,” Cathy Valdes said. “We don’t want to go through one more rainy season with these problems.”

The district has filed suit to try to get the repair costs recovered from The Architectural Practice Inc. and Ellis Construction Co.

THE SOLUTION

The problem was thoroughly evaluated by the District’s Technical Staff and outside consultants. It was determined that a large portion of the stucco must be replace, and properly bonded with a non-rewettable water resistant bonding material. Tuf-Link was chosen for the job which currently under way – summer 2013. The cost was substantial!

See below for some interesting pictures.



Deer Park School – Tampa



Deer Park School Stucco Repair



Deer Park School - More Stucco Repair



Oak Park School – Tampa



Oak Park School - More Stucco Repairs