



Spring 2015

# BOYS REPUBLIC Report

## Architecture for Education: Boys Republic Explores Options for Kitchen Replacement

■ **Chino Hills, California:** Youth-serving agency retains Architecture for Education, Inc. to develop conceptual plan.

Sitting appropriately at the heart of Boys Republic's sprawling Chino Hills campus is one of this centenarian agency's oldest and most used buildings — its kitchen. Constructed in 1917, nearly 30,000 students in residence have had their meals prepared three times daily in the building. Despite such distinguished service, the agency's evolving needs and modern health and safety standards finally require that we explore other alternatives to the aging facility.

Boys Republic has retained the Pasadena firm, Architecture for Education, Inc. (A4E), to develop

conceptual drawings and cost estimates. A4E, like its name implies, works solely in education. The firm was founded by Gaylaird Christopher, a nationally-recognized architect with over 30 years in educational facility design.

Boys Republic is particularly excited to work with A4E because the main campus kitchen plays a growing role as a vocational teaching facility for disadvantaged students nearing the demands of adulthood. In addition to replacing the existing production kitchen, the project would also construct a new culinary arts classroom. Vocational and work experience at Boys Republic are designed to emulate, as much as possible, the equipment and expectations of real-world jobs. The existing food services class operates with a make-shift set-up, occupying a portion of the cafeteria. The class would benefit from a permanent location, outfitted with the same commercial quality equipment that young job-seekers

would be likely to encounter in the job market.

