EcoStar, a leader in recycled building products and manufacturer of Majestic Slate tiles, is proud to have been selected as the number one choice for the construction of Zach Elementary School in Ft. Collins, Colo.

As part of a statewide request for a proposal, EcoStar’s Majestic Slate tiles met the sustainability guidelines that were established by Michel Spearnak and the eco-conscious Poudre School District. As a tribute to the school’s environmental responsibility, Zach Elementary School has achieved six awards for using sustainable building materials such as EcoStar’s Majestic Slate tile. The school has also received recognition for its efforts to conserve energy and preserve natural surroundings for future generations. The awards include the 2003 Sustainability Honor Award, 2003 Energy Star Award Winner, 2003 Single Space Merit Award, 2002 A.I.A. Colorado North Chapter Design Merit Award, 2002 Citation Award and the 2001 Excellent Use of Renewable Energy and Buildings Award.

RB & B Architects organized an interoffice competition in order to find eco-friendly materials for the school’s challenging criteria. George Brelig, principal in charge at RB & B Architects, chose the Majestic Slate tiles for appearance, durability and most importantly, sustainability. “We were impressed by the heavy recycled content,” said Brelig.

“We tested the Majestic Slate tiles against harsh winter weather, graffiti sprays and baseball beatings. We wanted to make sure that the material could withstand abuse from children.”

The school was completed in June 2002 and opened in August 2002. Proving to be a versatile product, the emulated slate tiles were installed on the exterior walls of the school rather than the roof, creating an unique architectural finish. The tiles were applied to more than 50 percent of the school’s 63,000 sq. ft. exterior wall structure.

“The product gave us aesthetic flexibility, so the buildings architecture was not compromised,” said Brelig.

Not only did the Majestic Slate tiles withstand extensive abuse without sacrificing the building’s appearance, but the earth green and smoke-colored tiles created a distinctive style for what could have been a dull institution. Beacon Elementary School is the second prototype school that is currently under construction, and a third prototype school is planned. EcoStar Majestic tiles, which carry a 50 year warranty, will be used for both projects.

“EcoStar has a successful product,” said Brelig. “There’s a variety of colors to choose from and it’s a great budget material.” EcoStar continues to introduce premium products that provide premium performance for the steep-slope roofing market.

For more information on how educational institutes are using EcoStar products visit www.ecostarllc.com or call 800.211.7170.