

Todd Buerger

**ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS/
CHIEF FACILITIES OFFICER
BUTLER UNIVERSITY • INDIANAPOLIS, IND.**

Todd has been with Butler University since 2015. He served as Senior Project Manager before transitioning to Associate Vice President of Operations and Chief Facilities Officer in 2023. During that time, he has overseen the largest capital expansion in the university's history. Prior to Butler, Todd had an architectural consulting business since 2011 after 21 years as Principal and Owner at BSA LifeStructures in Indianapolis. Todd holds a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Bachelor of Environmental Design from Miami University. He is a licensed architect in the state of Indiana and is a member of the American Institute of Architects. He has served on several advisory boards within the design and construction industry as well as publishing and speaking engagements.

Ken Hagen

**SENIOR PROJECT ARCHITECT
OPN ARCHITECTS • DES MOINES, IOWA**

As a senior project architect at OPN Architects, a Midwest design firm with five studios, Ken has spent most of his 20 years of practice designing student-centric spaces. His recent experience includes multiple new high schools, master planning and implementation for several districts, a new performing arts center for a school district, and a re-imagined visitor experience at a performance venue for a university. He also led the transformation of a university's center for advanced engineering. In planning and designing spaces for both students and educators – from pre-K to postgraduate – Ken has an approach that is rooted in integrating pedagogy, design, and function. He finds inspiration in the intersection of materials and experiences. Color, texture, and lighting create mood and are a muse for both the designer and user.

Wendy Hynes

**DIRECTOR OF INTERIOR DESIGN
TAPPÉ ARCHITECTS • BOSTON, MASS.**

Wendy is a professional interior designer and educator with 25-plus years in practice, teaching and research in the design of learning environments, makerspaces and spaces for creative collaboration. As Director of Interior Design for Tappé Architects, she has overseen the design of numerous new libraries and award-win-

ning K-12 school buildings. Additionally, as a professor at Purdue University, she conducted a program of research in the design of makerspaces and active learning classrooms with a focus on the correlation between design and student engagement. Her findings have been shared at international conferences, national lectures and published in industry and academic journals. She combines this research with industry knowledge and the owner's desires to bring the highest level of design to the project team.

Jake Slobodnik

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
BLUE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT • OVERLAND
PARK, KAN.**

As the Executive Director of Operations for Blue Valley School District, Jake has the honor of working alongside an amazing team dedicated to improving the lives and educational opportunities for nearly 23,000 students. Through strategic, long-term planning and careful implementation, Jake's team oversees all operational aspects of food and nutrition services, business operations, transportation, goods and services procurement and distribution, printing services, facility maintenance, grounds, custodial, and all capital improvement projects.

At Blue Valley, he has overseen over 170 capital improvement projects totaling more than \$400 million, including Blue Valley's two newest elementary schools, Aspen Grove and Wolf Springs. From initial conception, budgeting and planning to implementation, Jake's primary focus is to provide opportunities for all students to learn in a way that best suits their needs, providing staff with the resources they need for success, and offering patrons of Blue Valley facilities they can be proud of.

Jake obtained his Bachelor and Master of Architecture degrees from the University of Nebraska and is a LEED Accredited Professional.

Amanda Vigneau

**DIRECTOR
SHEPLEY BULFINCH • BOSTON, MASS.**

As an experienced Interior Designer, Amanda has worked in multiple sectors, with a focus on educational, student life, and workplace environments. She enjoys the intersection between exterior and interior, the integration of old and new, and exploring how technology incorporates into our clients' daily lives. She works with clients to push beyond perceived standards and envision a space they would have not imagined possible.