Henricksen

Project Profile

Cedarburg School District



Cafeteria

Henricksen

Location
W68 N611 Evergreen Blvd
Cedarburg, WI 53012 USA

Industry
K-12 Education

Size
48,000 SF

Completion
2021

Furniture Dealer
Henricksen

Installer
Systems Furniture Installation

Design Firm
Groth Design Group

General Contractor
CG Schmidt

Photographer
Josh Groth



Cafeteria

The Cedarburg School district is made up of three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. After completing a thorough master planning process with the assistance of CG Schmidt, a successful $59.8M referendum was passed in 2018 to renovate these facilities.

The main priorities of the renovations were to manage an increase in enrollment, develop the teaching and learning environments to be more flexible and ergonomic, and enhance safety and security. In addition, the district wanted to create a set of furniture and design standards that could be used across all the schools for consistency.

"One of the goals was to create flexible learning spaces, and that's super dependent on furniture," said Kirstin Collins, Director of Technology and Assessment, Cedarburg School District. "We also wanted to create a standards catalog, so that when it comes time to purchase again, we know what to buy and going forward everything will look the same."

"There was a lack of consistency across the grade levels and buildings, meaning you couldn't exchange furniture across those spaces," said Todd Bugnacki, Superintendent, Cedarburg School District.

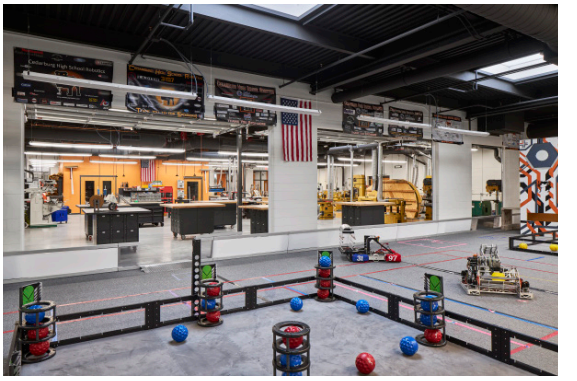
Most of the existing furniture was difficult to move and reconfigure, offering teachers and students little flexibility.

"It was vintage," said Collins, "A lot of pieces were not in the best of shape and not quite ergonomically correct or the right size for the classrooms."

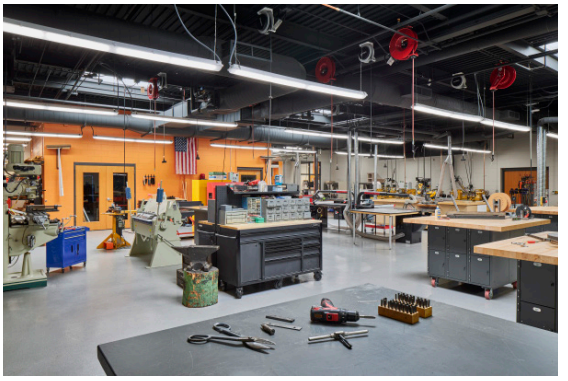
Henricksen



Maker Space



Fitness Center



Workshop

As a part of the process, the district bid out the furniture requirements to several different local commercial furniture dealerships. Henricksen was included because they had already helped the Cedarburg School District update some of their old furniture to more ergonomic and flexible options.

Henricksen ended up winning the full bid based on their experience, their discount structure and the pre-established relationship they had with the school district.

Before the referendum came out, Henricksen provided some pilot classrooms at each elementary school to see what the students and teachers liked and didn't like, with the goal of standardizing across the district.

The planning team attended EdSpaces, an educational furniture tradeshow and conference where they saw presentations from different furniture manufacturers, which helped them narrow in on the types of furniture that they wanted to bid as part of the project.

After being selected as the furniture provider, Henricksen helped finish the overall project programming.



Huddle Space

"They jumped in and gathered more extensive program information from teachers and staff," said Cindy Gall, Director of Interior Design, Groth Design Group, "They brought in a variety of test furniture and gathered feedback. They also assisted us with specifications, drawings and renderings."

At the elementary schools, furniture was provided for the library media center (LMC), classrooms, offices, and maker spaces. At Webster Middle School there was an update to the cafeteria space, an office remodel and a new LMC. The High School renovation supplied new classrooms for math and English, small group collaboration spaces, a new cafeteria, a whole new tech education department, new art rooms, maker space, and robotics area.

The district has now created a playbook outlining what they were trying to achieve with the renovations. It spells out the "why" around flexible and moveable furniture and will offer teachers templated layouts for certain scenarios, depending on what they are trying to achieve in the classroom. In addition, standard furniture selections are listed as a resource for teachers and staff to reference when new furniture is needed.

"The book of standards is helping," said Collins. "It solves the purpose of repairs by specifying who we contact and spelling out the make and model of the furniture." This enables the new grounds manager or any staff to be able to go the book and see who to contact and what to buy.

All the new furniture is flexible, ensuring there are size options for kids of all grades. Even the library shelves have wheels and can be moved. It has allowed the staff to create a culture and climate that didn't exist in the prior environment.



Workshop

"We were looking at a way to create an environment that was fully inclusive and provide teachers with greater opportunities to move the student achievement needle," said Bugnacki. The new spaces allow teachers to explore and better meet the needs of the students.

"When you have that across the system it makes people curious, seeing different layouts and wondering what that can do for the kids," said Bugnacki. "Teachers see different classroom set ups and are curious, thinking about what that particular set up allows you to do as a teacher."

"Where we weren't able to provide new furniture, people are clamoring for it," said Collins, "Our students even choose to use other spaces.



Classroom

"I see kids doing exactly what we wanted them to do – collaborating and breaking down silos," said Bugnacki.

"Henricksen provides exemplary service to our clients," said Gall. "I feel 100% confident bringing them to a bidding list or an interview. Their experience is exuded through and through. I feel great when they are explaining their process to a client, and I know that we have the same vision. They make sure they are an extension of me and my design team."



Maker Space



Library

Henricksen



Tech Space



Office + Workspace

"Henricksen provides exemplary service to our clients. I feel 100% confident bringing them to a bidding list or an interview. Their experience is exuded through and through. I feel great when they are explaining their process to a client, and I know that we have the same vision. They make sure they are an extension of me and my design team." "

— Kirstin Collins, Director of Technology and Assessment, Cedarburg School District



Reception

Cedarburg School District