



Agile furniture solutions by VS

Curious minds and active bodies need the **freedom** to *move* — *twist, flex, and adjust*. Prioritizing ergonomics enhances comfort, supports well-being, and **drives academic performance** across learning environments.

# Empowering Students Through Innovative Spaces

Education is evolving — and so are the spaces where students learn, collaborate, and grow. Today's schools are embracing flexible classrooms, career and technical education (CTE) spaces, STEM labs, and innovation hubs to create immersive, purposebuilt environments that fuel academic

success and personal growth. These environments go beyond traditional boundaries, blending core instruction with hands-on, collaborative learning that connects to real-world experiences. Whether it's a classroom designed for group projects, a tech-enabled space that adapts to any teaching style, or a

lab that sparks curiosity and problemsolving, these spaces are redefining student engagement. For schools and districts, it's a powerful opportunity to inspire, empower, and prepare the next generation of leaders and innovators.

### Live.

School is a central part of students' lives — a place where they learn, connect, and grow. Purpose-driven environments can transform schools into vibrant communities that nurture both student success and personal growth. By combining flexible classrooms, collaborative spaces, and areas for reflection and social interaction, schools create settings where students feel supported, engaged, and inspired.

These vibrant spaces connect classroom learning, hands-on projects, teamwork,

and real-world experiences — all designed to foster flexibility, creativity, and collaboration. From project rooms and makerspaces to comfortable gathering areas and tech-integrated study zones, these environments are built to inspire connection and curiosity.

The impact is powerful: stronger peer relationships, higher engagement, and a deeper sense of belonging.

Students thrive when their environment reinforces their goals, fuels curiosity, and surrounds them with a support system

that feels organic and authentic.

For school leaders and designers, purpose-driven environments present a unique opportunity to create holistic, high-performing spaces that support every student's success. It's not just about adding new spaces — it's about creating environments that adapt, invite, and empower. When thoughtfully designed, these spaces become more than a trend — they become a signature feature of an engaged, future-ready school.



### **Design Principles**

#### 1. Blur the Boundaries

Create seamless transitions between learning areas. Think lounge spaces that double as group project zones, or classrooms just steps from makerspaces and labs. The closer the connection, the greater the engagement.

#### 2. Build for Belonging

Design flexible, welcoming common areas where students want to gather, collaborate, and relax. Soft seating, writable walls, and accessible power keep energy flowing and ideas buzzing.

#### 3. Layer in Variety

Students need options: quiet nooks for solo focus, open tables for group projects, and tech-enabled rooms for presentations or workshops. Versatility makes spaces work harder and support more kinds of learning.

#### 4. Include Teachers and Mentors

Provide spaces where teachers, specialists, and support staff can connect with students — whether a small breakout area, drop-in zone, or shared lounge. Being visible and approachable helps students get guidance and support when they need it.

### 5. Design for Identity

Each space should feel distinct and inviting. Use color, signage, and finishes to reflect the purpose of the area — whether bright and modern for innovation or warm and earthy for STEM or sustainability projects.

#### 6. Don't Forget the Tools

Equip spaces with what students need: whiteboards, screens, printers, hands-on materials, and a place to store them all efficiently and safely. Making it easy to create, present, and prototype brings learning to life.

### Zones

When many minds share one space, purposeful zoning is essential. Defined areas for focus and collaboration ensure productivity without disruption.

Series Lounge soft seating + tables, JustBe table + storage, JUMPER® Ply stools, M-Panel





Shift+ Transfer storage, Shift+ Landscape soft seating

### **Interactions**

Some conversations demand clarity and focus. That's why creating environments where you're free from distraction — and not causing any — is essential for meaningful communication.

#### In-between

Offer flexible, ready-to-use spots where students can seamlessly transition, recharge, and stay productive throughout the day.



Puzzle tables, PantoMove chairs, Hokki stool, ClubLounge soft seating, Shift+ Landscape mats, Leaf tent elements, Shift+ Transfer storage

### Lab.

Today's schools need dedicated spaces that support hands-on, learner-driven experiences. These spaces invite students to explore, create, and apply knowledge in meaningful ways. They bring together physical, digital, and virtual tools to spark curiosity, encourage creativity, and strengthen collaboration. That's why spaces for independent exploration — from makerspaces to STEM labs — are central to both new school designs and renovations.

Across the country, schools are working hard to develop collaborative learning environments that combine hands-on experimentation with easy access to tools and resources — inspiring every student to think critically, solve problems, and innovate.

### **Design Principles**

#### 1. Prioritize Flexibility Across Space

As research evolves, labs must stay flexible. Incorporate height-adjustable tables, mobile storage, adaptable casework, and high-density shelving to enable easy reconfiguration. These elements support changing needs over time while maximizing long-term value and functionality.

### 2. Create Spaces for Focus and Comfort

Support well-being with adjustable lighting, acoustic zones, operable

windows, and ergonomic furnishings. These elements help students stay focused, calm, and energized without leaving the learning space.

### 3. Select Biophilic Finishes When Possible

Labs no longer need to feel sterile to stay clean. Today's spaces can maintain hygiene while embracing biophilic design. Use natural-looking finishes — like woodgrains, stone patterns, and warm neutrals — to bring comfort, warmth, and a connection to nature into the lab environment.

### 4. Encourage Movement and Postural Variety

At VS, we believe movement fuels focus and well-being. Include standing-height tables, active seating, and layouts that support walking or pacing. These elements promote energy, engagement, and comfort for all students through postural variety.

### 5. Design for Neuroinclusivity

Inclusive lab design benefits everyone. As Kay Sargent of HOK notes, supporting diverse sensory needs positively impacts all students. Strategies like sensory zoning, lighting variation, and flexible layouts create environments where all learners — regardless of neurodiversity — can thrive, making labs more welcoming, adaptable, and effective for the future of scientific discovery.





FlipTable, PantoMove chairs, SPACE storage

### Discovery, Collaboration, and Creation

As students take greater ownership of their learning, they need environments that support both collaborative project work and hands-on creativity — spaces where they can explore ideas, create original content, and share their perspectives.

### Learning Together, Anywhere

Human connection is central to learning — regardless of whether it's in-person, hybrid, or remote. Today's integrated technologies make it easier for students to connect with teachers and peers, boosting engagement, fostering inclusion, and supporting stronger learning outcomes.

JUMPER Ply stools, EcoTable, SPACE storage





PantoMove chairs, EcoTable, Series 600 storage

### **Classroom Instruction**

Well-designed furniture supports collaboration, handson learning, and ergonomic comfort — enhancing focus, engagement, and preparation for real-world problem-solving and teamwork.



JUMPER Move chairs, JUMPER stools, EcoTable, SPACE storage

### **Dynamic Usage**

Movable benches, adjustable workstations, versatile seating, and smart storage enable flexible, dynamic learning environments that adapt easily to changing activities and teaching methods.

### Learn.

The design of CTE and STEM classrooms is crucial because it directly
influences the quality and effectiveness
of student learning experiences. These
classrooms should be designed to be
flexible and adaptable, allowing for easy
reconfiguration to accommodate a
variety of teaching methods and learning
activities. By creating well-organized,
adaptable, and resource-rich environments, CTE and STEM classrooms
effectively prepare students for success
in future careers, equipping them with
the skills and knowledge necessary to

navigate a rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Versatility is essential in STEM and CTE, where practical application of knowledge through projects and experiments is as important as theoretical understanding. Incorporating defined zones for different tasks — such as collaborative workspaces, individual study areas, and simulation labs — ensures that students can easily shift between different modes of learning.

### **Design Principles**

#### 1. Support Dynamic Gathering

At their best, learning spaces bring people together in ways that feel natural, energizing, and inclusive. Environments that support a range of group sizes, energy levels, and movement patterns encourage interaction and curiosity. Flexible layouts and furnishings that can be quickly reconfigured help foster both spontaneous connection and intentional collaboration — without feeling rigid or overly prescribed.

### 2. Integrate Purposeful Technology

Technology works best when it's intuitive and enhances engagement.
Strategically placed power, data access,

and digital tools should feel seamless — empowering both in-person and hybrid learning models. Reliability, ease of use, and proactive maintenance by informed staff are essential.

#### 3. Design with the Student in Mind

Today's students are natural collaborators, and great space design can help add structure to group experiences. Create environments that celebrate comfort, inclusivity, and movement. Adjustable seating, vertical writable surfaces, and dynamic layouts offer ergonomic benefits and promote a sense of belonging and shared ownership.

#### 4. Invite Student Voice

The most impactful spaces are informed by those who use them. Engage diverse student perspectives early in the design process to cultivate environments that reflect their needs, inspire pride, and invite authentic use. These insights often lead to remarkably effective outcomes.

#### 5. Balance Function with Form

Aesthetics matter — but not at the expense of usability. Partner with vendors who understand students and teachers and prioritize thoughtful details like durability, ergonomic design, ongoing training, and timeless finishes.

When function leads, the investment

endures.





TriUnion tables, LinkUp room dividers, Shift+ Landscape soft seating, FlipTables, Series Lounge soft seating, JUMPER chairs, Hokki stools

### **Multi-Modal Learning Environments**

Highly engaging classrooms support multiple learning modes with integrated technology and tools for instruction, collaboration, reflection, and discussion — all in one flexible environment.



Tano tables, LiteTables, Shift+ FusionFlip tables, JUMPER chairs, JUMPER stools, SPACE storage

### **Spaces That Support Engagement**

Active learning classrooms boost participation, build essential skills, and foster community — encouraging students to embrace challenges and feel more connected to their learning environment.

## Solutions -

### **Ergo-Dynamics**

Thinking and learning do not just happen in the head. From the moment of birth until an advanced age, the body is an integral part of well-being and of all intellectual processes. This also includes many intuitive activities that most of us are not even aware of and that emerge rather incidentally.

Researchers refer to these as "non-exercise activity thermogenesis" (NEAT) (Levine 2002). They include all musculature activities that are not consciously organized and include everyday physical activities such as moving a chair back and forth, intuitive changes of position when standing or

working on the floor, moving one's hands while talking, and even nervous foot-tapping.

Our sensory organs, including those for balance and muscle activity, need regular stimulation for positive development. Movement promotes brain activity, increases circulation, and supports learning.

Integrating dynamic movement through active seat choices and dynamic pedagogies helps to activate our metabolic system through our muscular system.



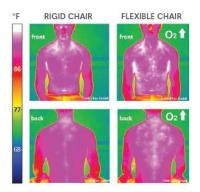




### Activity is a high-yield investment.

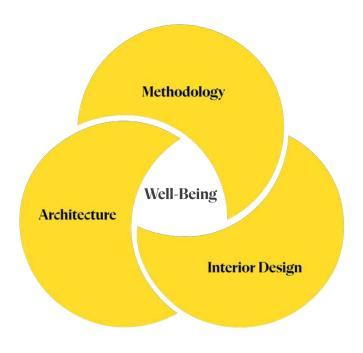
- 40% higher test scores
- Reduced risk for heart diseases, diabetes II, stroke, cancer, dementia
- 1/10th as likely to be obese
- May live 5 years longer

(Nike, Inc. 2013, Siddarth et al. 2018, Schmid et al. 2014, Wheeler et al. 2017)



#### FIGURE FROM: LUDWIG AND BREITHECKER 2008

On the top right quadrant, you'll see a significant increase of oxygen supply while seated on a chair with 3D function. Compare this image to the left-hand side, which shows how sitting in a rigid chair leads to deficient circulation.



### Seating



JUMPER® Family

With a wide range of frame options, seat materials, colors, and finishes, there's a JUMPER for every body and everywhere.





### Panto Chairs

The Panto line of chairs prioritize physical well-being and mental agility with ergonomic construction, curated materials, and distinctive design.





Hokki, Hokki+ With an innovative design that promotes freedom of movement, the Hokki allows for a natural, 360-degree range of motion.



VS Stakki

A versatile utility player, the VS Stakki fits anywhere and stacks neatly for compact storage.





### Solo

With 4 foot rings positioned at different heights for use as footrests, the Solo stool is easy to be used by students of all heights.



### LuPoStool

Versatile, durable, and stackable, the LuPoStool comes in 3 heights and keeps lab spaces organized and clutter-free.







Series Lounge is a versatile line of upholstered furniture — sofas, benches, chaise lounges, and armchairs — offered in two seat heights.



### Shift+ Landscape

Soft seating available in a variety of straight, curved, or angled elements and multiple heights.

### **Tables**



### **EcoTable**

Timeless design, durability, and flexibility make the EcoTable the quintessential multipurpose table.



### RondoLift

RondoLift tables feature a height-adjustable tabletop for sitting and standing, and an optional tilt mechanism with a writable surface.



### TriUnion

The TriUnion table is built to be lightweight yet exceptionally stable, making it well-equipped for everyday demands.



### FlipTable

Versatile sitting or standing folding top tables that are fully mobile on casters for easy movement and flexibility.



### Shift+ Interact & ThumbPrint

The Interact can be used as a lectern or individual table.

The convex and concave ThumbPrint tables allow for versatile combinations — circles, groups, rows, and more.



### LiteTable

Available in various heights, easy to stack, and featuring unique legs that allow tables to form a continuous row without gaps when needed.



### AddLounge Table

Available with a rectangular top and base or round top and base, these tables add a touch of elegance as well as functionality as laptop tables.



### Tano

Tano tables allow for quick transformations between solo tasks and collaborative activities, encouraging focus and teamwork with ease.



### **Shift+ BaseStation**

A mobile, semicircular group table that integrates seamlessly into various configurations and can be equipped as a computer workstation.



### TeamTable & Puzzle Table

Reshape the conversation with an innovative shape that invites collaboration — fostering engagement and connection.



### **JustBe**

Made from construction beech, JustBe elements offer a warm, tactile aesthetic while standing up to the demands of modern furniture use.



### M-Table & M-Panel

Pair the M-Table with the M-Panel to effortlessly create spaces that foster collaboration and conversation.

### **Storage**





### **Shift+ Transfer**

These storage elements are available in various heights, straight or curved designs, and single- or double-sided configurations.





### SpaceWalk & SpaceStation

SPACE is a storage system that includes mobile carts and wall-mounted storage,

making it easy to streamline organization and optimize resources.



### **JustBe**

Created from construction beech, JustBe storage elements offer an elegant touch and are available in multiple configurations.





### Series 600

With a versatile range of elements and design features, Series 600 rises to the demands of dynamic learning environments.

# Sustainability -

### Beyond the classroom

### Over a century of sustainability and craft.

For over 125 years, VS has been providing outstanding educational furniture that brings visionary design concepts into the places we learn, work, and play. Although much has changed in the industry over the decades, our fundamentals stay the same.

Our long-standing commitment to sustainability and quality craftsmanship remains our mission at VS.

As a company, we have always considered it our responsibility to commit to measures that benefit people, while protecting the natural environment. We offer our customers safe, healthy, long-life products, all manufactured in a way that contributes to environmental protection.

Product certifications include:



Durable & Recyclable. Furniture parts made of plastic are made from polypropylene, which is not only hard-wearing and thus long-lasting, but also completely recyclable.

Wood Chip Heating. We burn the wood chips accumulated in our wood-based materials processing to generate around 50% of our heating energy.

Smarter Packaging, Cleaner Sites. Blanket-wrapped delivery with minimal cardboard means less waste and faster installs.



utilizes high-performance building and design strategies.









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