

# "WE TELL THE STUDENTS, THIS IS YOUR FURNITURE, THIS IS YOUR SCHOOL; TAKE PRIDE IN OWNERSHIP OF YOUR SCHOOL"

AARON HARPER, PRINCIPAL

## LOCATION

South Washington  
County Schools  
East Ridge High School  
Woodbury, MN

## ARCHITECT

Architects Rego +  
Youngquist, Inc.

## SIZE

372,000 sq. ft.

## THE CHALLENGE

With over 372,000 square feet of efficiency, the one thing that administrators and contractors could not build or design into East Ridge High School is the culture. It was up to the students to

establish their own identity for the new school; however, the architecture and the furniture provided the foundation for the inspiring culture East Ridge High School radiates today.

## THE DESIGN

Equipped with the latest in safety, technology and wireless connectivity, the interior design plan took advantage of architectural features such as an abundance of natural light and the "Main Street" concept which allows for efficient student flow and creates learning touchdown areas throughout the school.

Off the Main Street are Learning Resource Centers (LRC) that include classroom space complemented with small group meeting areas, computer stations and lab space. These open, transparently defined areas are key to the educational experience East Ridge delivers.

## THE FURNISHINGS

With over 1,600 students and 115 faculty members to accommodate as well as a new culture waiting to take shape, East Ridge's furnishings had to create that campus feel that students could be proud of and want to use. Sustainable attributes were also an important goal of the project. National's environmentally-certified selections complemented these efforts. Principal Aaron Harper stated, "We don't have the luxury to replace furniture in 5 years. So, longevity and durability are extremely important. It was clear to me that National Office Furniture was the vendor we wanted to go with." The rest is history, so to speak.

With Reno lounges and Myriad occasional tables anchoring the LRCs, and over 60 feet of Swift modular lounge meandering along the media center's windowscape, it's immediately evident that students, faculty and visitors possess an incredible environment for a truly unique learning experience. In professional and administrative spaces, professional is exactly the look they needed. Private offices, conference rooms and work areas outfitted with Casbah and WaveWorks not only provide the desired look, but offer users exceptional comfort and productivity for an ideal work setting.

## THE RESULTS

East Ridge believes that if you treat students with respect, they will act like young adults from the way they study to how they carry themselves in and out of school. The results

are easy to see as students and faculty share ideas, stories and laughs as they lounge and engage among spaces and furnishings that promote collaboration.

## SCOPE

- Private Offices
- Counseling Office
- Open Plan Offices
- Conference Rooms
- Learning Resource Centers
- Media Center/Library
- Touchdown Areas
- Waiting Area

## PRODUCTS

- Casbah® Casegoods
- WaveWorks® Casegoods
- Eloquence® Tables
- Myriad™ Tables
- Swift™ Tables
- WaveWorks® Tables
- Aurora® Seating
- Eloquence® Seating
- Fuel® Seating
- Mix-it® Seating
- Respect® Seating
- Reno® Lounge
- Swift™ Lounge



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