

# “NATIONAL MADE THE SPACE COOL AND INVITING. STUDENTS ARE DRAWN INTO THE SPACE. IT’S A COMFORTABLE PLACE WHERE THEY CAN HANG OUT AND BE CREATIVE.”

SARAH BARDWELL, MEDIA DIRECTOR, SOUTHWEST DUBOIS SCHOOL CORPORATION

## LOCATION

Southridge High School  
Huntingburg, IN

## SCOPE

Makerspace

## SIZE

309 sq. ft.

## THE CHALLENGE

Southridge High School wanted to create a space that would foster creativity and develop problem solving skills; a unique area that offered workstations for hands-on projects and spaces to brainstorm and collaborate. They envisioned a space where students could use a green screen for videography projects, and a table equipped with projection and technology

capabilities. After conducting research, they decided on a makerspace. By definition, a makerspace is a place where students can gather to tinker, explore, and discover using a variety of tools and materials. Simply, makerspaces are places that bring people together to enable acts of making.

## THE DESIGN

Sarah Bardwell, Media Director for the Southwest Dubois School Corporation, wanted to design a space where students could express their creativity and individuality, while boosting their confidence. Bardwell designed the makerspace

within Southridge High School's existing library, and outfitted the area with functional yet comfortable solutions. The adjoining Southridge Middle School also uses the makerspace for their students.

## THE FURNISHINGS

Southridge High School chose National's furniture to outfit their makerspace with progressive and highly functional furniture. The marker board, shelf, and tackable inserts for the Exhibit wall rail solution allow for student creativity and encourages brainstorm sessions. The Mio collaborative table works seamlessly with the green screen technology so that

students can transform themselves into various settings. Mobile Whimsy impromptu seating and Jiminy folding chairs offer flexibility and the ability to huddle and move around the room from station to station. The bistro height Strassa collaborative table and Ditto stools create an elevated working space that is functional for seated or standing students.

## THE RESULTS

Although the concept of a makerspace is new to the student population, it is changing the way the students use school space. The “don't touch” philosophy is gone and they have the freedom to be creative and are encouraged to use the

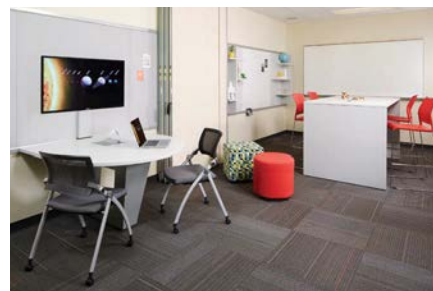
space before and during school hours. The students have embraced the ability to gather and have some fun while learning through hands-on problem solving challenges.

## SCOPE

- Makerspace

## PRODUCTS

- Exhibit™ Wall Rail Solution
- Strassa™ Collaborative Table
- Mio™ Collaborative Table
- WaveWorks® Tables
- Jiminy® Seating
- Ditto™ Seating
- Whimsy® Seating



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