

Meeting the Needs of Every Community

Supporting Peoria Schools with Flexible Learning Spaces
for All Students

Lakeshore®



PROJECT PROFILE

14

schools

grades

K-4

260+

general
education rooms

17

special
education rooms

14

sensory spaces

multiple
breakout spaces



Project Overview

In 2022, Peoria School District in Illinois had the opportunity to make much-needed furniture upgrades to better support their K-4 students and teachers. But it needed to be the right furniture—flexible, versatile, and designed to support a 21st-century learning framework.

To provide a solution—and get the project completed on schedule—the district called on Lakeshore to design, deliver, and install Flex-Space furniture in more than 260 general education classrooms. To support implementation, Lakeshore Professional Services Group provided virtual and in-person trainings for teachers and administrators. These one-on-one interactions were game changers, helping educators to see for themselves the impact of

mobile furniture in their classrooms. It also laid the groundwork for a deeper relationship—leading to a second round of furniture installation to support Peoria’s need for calming spaces and classrooms for students with special needs.

“Building meaningful partnerships is core to our mission, as it allows districts to more easily achieve their goals.”

Patti Clark, Chief Academic Officer, Lakeshore

2022: Lower Elementary Classrooms

Like young children everywhere, Peoria students are active learners who benefit from a variety of different seating choices. To ensure their needs were met, multiple options were provided—including Ergo Bounce Cantilever Chairs that offer stability as kids sit forward, sideways...or bounce in place to channel restless energy. Another addition was Premium Wobble Chairs, providing a seating option that allows active students to wobble in place without tipping over.

For even greater versatility, Premium Floor Seats were combined with Rectangular Floor Tables to support small groups. Paired with the tables or used on their own, these ergonomically designed seats offer another option to add greater flexibility to Peoria classrooms.

“ Alternative seating and seating arrangements make this space conducive to collaboration and inspire better conduct. ”

Kathy Rodriguez,
Principal, Charter Oak
Primary School



Ergo Bounce Cantilever Chairs · Mobile Rectangular Tables · Premium Floor Seats · Rectangular Floor Table



Mobile Group Table · Premium Wobble Chairs



Lounge & Learn Couches & Ottomans

2022: Upper Elementary Classrooms

Along with promoting 21st-century learning goals, easing students' transition to more sophisticated middle school environments was a key consideration in the furniture decision-making process. To satisfy both needs, options selected for upper elementary classrooms were chosen based on their ability to support groups of shifting size and focus.

For example, Lakeshore delivered smooth-rolling Mobile Wedge Student Desks that easily configure to accommodate groups of 2-6 students or more. (Plus, having individual mobile desks that adjust in height from 23" to 34" allows students of all sizes to work independently, one-on-one, or as a team for study, problem solving, and connection.) To foster an even greater degree of student choice, Peoria was supplied with height-adjustable Mobile Standing Desks and Height-Adjustable Stools. Options like these support even more configurability in the classroom and provide students with the focus they need in order to learn.



Mobile Wedge Student Desks • Mobile Standing Desks • Height-Adjustable Stools

A New Challenge for 2023: Supporting the Needs of All Students

After installing 260+ classrooms, Peoria School District was inspired to work with Lakeshore on a project specifically for students with special needs. It involved providing furniture for 17 environments—including spaces designed for students in the district’s cross-categorical program as well as spaces for students with autism and those benefiting from deaf and hard of hearing services. Lakeshore also provided new furniture and materials for calming areas and breakout spaces.

Solution: Special Education Spaces

To support best practices for students with special needs—and maximize the use of limited space—Lakeshore made a careful selection of furniture options.

For example, classrooms were outfitted with height-adjustable Write & Wipe Mobile Rectangular Tables to accommodate different learners. These innovative tables allow for quick and easy configurability and let Peoria students draw and solve problems—right on the dry-erase surfaces. For added versatility, classrooms were also provided with height-adjustable Mobile Student Desks and Mobile Group Tables that are perfect for small-group instruction and intervention.

More seating options included Comfy Chairs with Desks & Power. Not only do they offer comfort and support, but also laminate desks attached to the armrests rotate 360 degrees for maximum utility. Best of all, the chairs feature built-in power modules with AC outlets and USB-A charging ports—making it simple for students to incorporate laptops, tablets, and assistive devices into the learning process.

“Flex-Space furniture has allowed our class team to effectively support all of our students’ diverse needs.”

Christine Dunnett, K-2 Cross-Categorical Teacher, Franklin Primary School



Comfy Chairs with Desks & Power



Write & Wipe Mobile Rectangular Table



Mobile Student Desks • Mobile Group Table

Solution: Sensory Spaces

Dealing with strong feelings can be a challenge—especially for children. In order to provide Peoria students with safe spaces that support calming and self-regulation, the district asked Lakeshore for furniture and materials for 14 sensory rooms.

Part of the solution was a selection of furniture that includes soft seating, like [Premium Floor Seats](#), [Teardrop Beanbag Seats](#), [Wobble Cushions](#), and [Comfy Stools](#). Each furniture style is designed to offer a soothing experience when children are feeling vulnerable.

To provide students with hands-on sensory experiences that restore focus when overwhelmed by uncomfortable emotions, Lakeshore offered [Color-Changing Light Tables](#), [Liquid Floor Tiles](#), [Tilt & Turn Liquid Sensory Windows](#), and [Calming Cuddle Balls](#) designed to soothe the senses.



Teardrop Beanbag Seats · Wobble Cushion · Student Lap Desk · Calming Cuddle Balls

“Lakeshore furniture provides opportunities for movement and personalized choice, meeting the needs of all students.”

Jaime Peterson, Principal, Kellar Primary School



Premium Floor Seats · Low Round Floor Table · Tilt & Turn Liquid Sensory Windows



Color-Changing Light Tables · Liquid Floor Tiles



Lounge & Learn Couches & Ottoman • Comfy Soft Rocker • Comfy Stools

Solution: Breakout Spaces

Because learning happens everywhere—from Peoria’s classrooms to its nontraditional spaces—Lakeshore created soft, accessible spaces for small-group study, student collaboration, project-based activities, and one-on-one interactions. To promote a relaxed atmosphere, furniture choices included [Lounge & Learn Couches](#) and [Ottomans](#), [Comfy Soft Rockers](#), and [Comfy Stools](#).

Easy to move and reconfigure for groups of all sizes, each piece is made with durable vinyl that wipes clean in an instant, supporting good hygiene and wellness throughout Peoria’s school year.

Training to Support Implementation

The shift from traditional classrooms to flexible, 21st-century learning environments was met with excitement—and a little apprehension, too. Some teachers had concerns about how this change would affect their methods of instruction and how to best utilize the new furniture to ensure student needs were met.

Lakeshore Professional Services Group—comprised of credentialed educators with extensive classroom experience—responded with customized trainings and live demonstrations in teachers’ actual classrooms. This in-person approach provided educators with real insight into how Flex-Space furniture can be configured to support instruction for the whole class, small groups, Socratic circles, and individual students. In addition to instructional benefits, each training also focused on how flexible furniture supports positive behavior by increasing students’ sense of personal agency—and eases classroom management by making them full partners in the use of their learning spaces.

By the end of the trainings, Peoria educators were ready to get started and eager to see the impact of the new furniture when classes resumed.

“Lakeshore has been great... friendly, efficient, and easy to work with.”

Julie Hancock,
Assistant Principal,
Hines Primary School

FEATURED PRODUCTS



Ergo Bounce Cantilever Chairs

LC763 • 13 1/2" Chair
 LC765 • 15 1/2" Chair
 LC767 • 17 1/2" Chair



Premium Wobble Chairs

LC768 • 18" Chair
 LC766 • 16" Chair
 LC764 • 14" Chair
 LC762 • 12" Chair



Wobble Cushion

LC511 • Blue, Green, Orange



Premium Floor Seat

LK364 • Blue, Green, Orange, Gray



Big Teardrop Beanbag Seat

LC573 • Blue, Green, Orange
 30"w x 32"h



Jumbo Teardrop Beanbag Seat

LC574 • Blue, Green, Orange
 36"w x 34"h



Lounge & Learn Chair

LC812 • Blue, Green, Orange, Gray



Comfy Soft Rocker

LK118



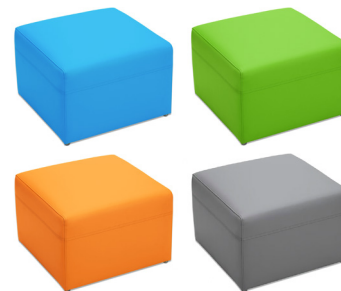
Lounge & Learn Couch for Two

LC246 • Blue, Green, Orange, Gray



Lounge & Learn Couch for Three

LC813 • Blue, Green, Orange, Gray



Lounge & Learn Ottoman

LC274 • Blue, Green, Orange, Gray



Comfy Stool

LC231 • Blue, Green, Orange, Gray

FEATURED PRODUCTS



Comfy Chair with Desk & Power
LK102



Student Lap Desk
LC153



**Mobile Student Desk -
Modern Maple**
LK788



**Mobile Wedge Student Desk -
Modern Maple**
LC787



**Mobile Standing Desk -
Modern Maple**
LK571



**Height-Adjustable Stool -
Modern Maple**
LC637



**Mobile Group Table -
Modern Maple**
LK226 • 72" x 48"



**Rectangular Floor Tables -
Modern Maple**
LC756 • 30" x 48"
LC758 • 30" x 60"



**Low Round Floor Table -
Modern Maple**
LC680



**Space-Saver Color-Changing
Light Table**
LL526



Liquid Floor Tiles
SE401

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