



## Versatile, Durable HON Products Help New Berlin Elementary School Look Good...within Budget

**“I have been using HON products for more than 20 years. I appreciate the quality of workmanship and the lifetime warranty.”**

Cheryl Thompson, Interior Designer,  
Duval County Public Schools

Serving approximately 130,000 students in 160 buildings throughout the Jacksonville, Fla., metropolitan area, Duval County Public Schools has enjoyed continuous steady growth over the years. And, with that growth comes the obvious need for new construction to accommodate an increasing student body and updated classroom design to support more flexible instructional techniques required in today's contemporary classroom. The school district's newest school showcases this new design.

New Berlin Elementary School opened in the fall of 2006. Designed to house 750 students in grades K-5, the school represents the most modern of educational environments. Increased daylighting enhances learning space. Classrooms are larger—designed to facilitate various table groupings necessary for collaborative learning and sharing.

The school also features a fully wired technology center, an art laboratory and several well-appointed conference rooms. Its overall design reflects and supports contemporary learning requirements.

Even more importantly, the desks, tables and seating throughout the school—from individual classrooms to the computer laboratory to the art room—allow teachers and students to tailor configurations to their learning styles. Versatility is a must in the modern classroom. Modern desks and tables need to be adjustable in order to accommodate different tasks and different children.

“Kids today don't just sit straight up in their desks with their hands folded when they are learning. They move about. They talk. They interact in small and large groups,” notes Deidra Johnson, principal of New Berlin Elementary School in Jacksonville, Fla.'s Duval County Public School District.

The furnishings from The HON Company's Accomplish™ and its Activity tables, among others, help foster this learning style at New Berlin Elementary School, Duval County's newest school.

New Berlin Elementary School  
Duval County Public Schools  
Jacksonville, Fla

**HON**®

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## Products

**Classroom:** Accomplish™ desking and seating. Activity tables and education workstations. Flagship® storage cabinets. Resolution® seating.

**Media Center:** 10700 Series desking.

**Principal's Office:** Park Avenue Collection® Veneer desking. Resolution® seating. Park Avenue Collection guest seating.

**Conference Rooms:** Park Avenue Collection Veneer tables. Tercero™ tables. Nuance™ seating. Alaris™ seating.

**Teacher Resource Rooms:** Tercero tables. Perpetual® seating.

**Other Offices:** 10700 Series desking. Resolution® seating.

**Lobby:** Perpetual seating.

## Opportunity/Goal

While the New Berlin project was still in its initial stages, district interior designer Cheryl Thompson knew she wanted to use HON products throughout the building. She cites the quality workmanship, versatility, durability and the aesthetics as the main attractions of HON products and notes that she also appreciates the fact many of HON's products offer a limited lifetime warranty.

"We frequently use the Accomplish student desking and seating and Activity tables in classrooms," Thompson says. "We love the versatility they provide. Plus they're durable. They hold up to heavy 'kid' use and traffic."

## Solution

The HON Company's furniture solutions fit the school's needs for a dynamic learning environment—with high-quality, highly versatile seating, desks and tables in the school's various learning areas. Comfortable, adjustable Accomplish chairs and adjustable-height student desks used in the intermediate classrooms can be grouped together to form "tables" or can be used individually, depending on the classroom setting. Kidney and trapezoid activity tables used in lower grade levels facilitate group learning, yet leave room on the floor for circle time and sharing. All classrooms feature a 30" x 60" educational workstation, adjustable computer tables that seat up to four students.

"HON's Accomplish furniture and activity tables have allowed us to really give a sense of personality to our rooms, and they're great for cooperative learning. We can easily reconfigure groupings of desks or tables in any classroom," Johnson says. "And we love the fact the Accomplish adjusts to different-size students. Even if the classroom use changes from year to year, say from a fifth-grade class to a first grade classroom, the furniture is versatile enough to undergo that change."



Thompson already is back at the drawing board for another new Duval County project, the North Shore Elementary School, which will house 1,200 students. She will again specify furnishings from HON's educational lines, particularly Accomplish.

"Not only is HON furniture a tough product that holds up, but the local dealer support is wonderful," she says. "Total Office Solutions in Jacksonville is well-versed in the extensive product line, which only enhances the overall quality of HON's offerings. New Berlin Elementary School worked out so well, so why not use HON again? It's an easy decision."

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