

# Unity High School Computer Lab

## PROJECT DETAIL

Computer Lab Classroom  
Lowell, MI

Impression Straight Leg Tables  
Impression XT Electric Height-Adj. Desk  
Monitor Risers  
CPU Holders



## Unity High School Case Study

### Project Background

Unity High School - Lowell, Michigan's "alternative" High School - has a mission to give students a sense of hope and belonging so they can graduate and become responsible citizens. With a small student-to-teacher ratio and individualized lessons through an online educational program, Unity focuses on students behind schedule and at risk of not graduating due to a variety of personal and educational issues.

Sue Sweet, a teacher in Lowell for over 13 years, leads the Unity High School program and oversees its computer lab. With school budgets tight, the furniture in the lab was a mishmash of tables and surfaces. Each student workstation included a CPU laying on its side as a monitor stand, leaving little workspace for papers and reference materials. While the room had been updated years ago with additional power circuits and data jacks, getting cords the last few feet from the wall to each computer was a mess. Cables and plugs were a zip-tied jumble under the tables and, as a result, were often pulled loose.

### The Update

The workstation floorplan couldn't be changed since power and data access is around the perimeter of the room. Additionally, the current layout minimizes distractions, helping keep the students focused while also allowing "Sweet" (as most students call her) to monitor their progress.

To brighten the look and feel of the space, Enwork Impression tables with Designer White laminate worksurfaces were specified for the workstations and printer stations. For the teacher's desk, an Impression XT-Series electric height-adjustable L-shaped base was selected. The Bleached Legno wood laminate top aesthetically ties together the new tables with the remaining pieces of wood furniture.





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Incorporating Enwork’s steel Monitor Risers and a custom CPU holder greatly improved the functionality of the student workstations. The Monitor Risers assure an ergonomically correct line-of-sight while actually increasing the useable workspace, the exact opposite of the previous approach. The CPU holder further organizes the workstations, keeping each CPU upright, stable and aligned in the corner.

Out of sight but pulling it all together, Enwork’s Steel Cable Troughs control the nest of cords under the paired workstations so that everything is safely away from legs, backpacks, and chairs.

### The Results

As soon as the new school year started, Sweet could tell the difference. “This is an older facility. The lab is now lighter, brighter, and feels more serious. I’m amazed at how much the updated environment energizes my students.”

The height-adjustability teacher’s desk has been a hit too. “I move around quite a bit helping students. It’s really nice going back to my desk and having it at ‘my’ height when I get a little down time. When I’m using the projector for a general class lesson, I can move my desk up to the right height so I’m not constantly bending down to reach my computer. Plus, some students prefer to stand when coming up for one-on-one instruction.”

But, as Sweet made clear, the convenience of her height-adjustable desk is an ancillary benefit. “It’s just great! Modernizing the lab environment helps the students feel that they are truly important and not an afterthought.” Helping students is what Lowell’s Unity High School is all about. ✨

