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To better serve its students, St. Benedict at Auburndale High School moved to a new facility featuring state-of-the-art technology and a cohesive, high-end appearance.

“If we were going to build it, we wanted to build it right so that it enhances what we do,” says George Valadie, SBA president. “It’s an investment in student education. We looked for excellent quality.”

Andy Gattas, Knowledge Tree dealer, agrees, “We needed to maintain high quality yet still find products that made sense within the budget.”

“The entire school was designed to flow smoothly from one area to the next,” says Tim Duke, Crump Firm architect. “We looked for furnishings that worked with the architecture and the color schemes.”

In the Distance Learning Center, students interact with teachers all over the world. According to Duke, KI was not the lowest bid but it was the best choice. Duke explains. “There were differences in comfort, durability and design. And, the aesthetics were an issue.” In the end, they selected KI University Seating with PowerUp modules. “It’s really very attractive,” says Duke.

In the classrooms, Intellect Desks work well for all sizes of students and they are easy to get in and out of. Duke adds, “They’re built solidly and will last a long time.”



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#### Product List

AGI Flex® Tables  
AGI Jessa® Seating  
AGI Kurv® Benches  
CrossRoads® Library Furniture  
InTandem® Table System  
Intellect™ Classroom Furniture  
Kismet® Seating  
Uniframe® Tables  
University™ Seating with PowerUp®  
Versa® Basic Chairs

#### Project Participants

Client: St. Benedict at Auburndale High School  
Architecture: The Crump Firm, Inc. - Memphis  
Interior Design: The Crump Firm, Inc. - Memphis  
Dealer: Knowledge Tree

KI and AGI furnishings help create a dynamic, inviting library environment. "It needed to provide reading areas, breakout rooms, seating areas and computer areas," says Duke. "The emphasis is on the functionality of the space."

"It's a warm place," Valadie adds. "The combination of architecture and furnishings is very inviting. It's become a beehive of activity."

According to Melissa Griffin, Crump Firm interior design project manager, "The library was designed to be fun and functional. The focus on the color ties it all together and gives it an interesting look. Everyone seems to really enjoy being there."

The computer areas provide superior function. "We wanted a larger worksurface, even with the monitors," says Valadie. "They are exactly what we need."



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From the main entry to faculty lounges, classrooms and the dining hall, KI furniture combines the needed functions with a consistent and attractive presentation.

The main entry is intended to be a gathering place for the students. According to Duke, "The Kurv benches are attractive and have a good feel with the architecture."

The dining hall easily converts to an assembly area by rolling away the Uniframe tables and rearranging the Versa Basic chairs.

"In the faculty lounge we wanted to build a community feeling in one central place," says Valadie. "It needed to provide a place to relax, a place to grade papers, it's a little of each."

"We liked the transitional look of KI furnishings throughout the facility," says Griffin. "It's a good look for the school."

"When you tour the facilities and what the students can be part of, there's a wow factor," says Fred Ernest, Knowledge Tree account executive. "It's very impressive."



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