

Case Study:

# SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY

Fort Atkinson High School | Fort Atkinson, WI



# Spacesaver's Commitment to Empowering the Community

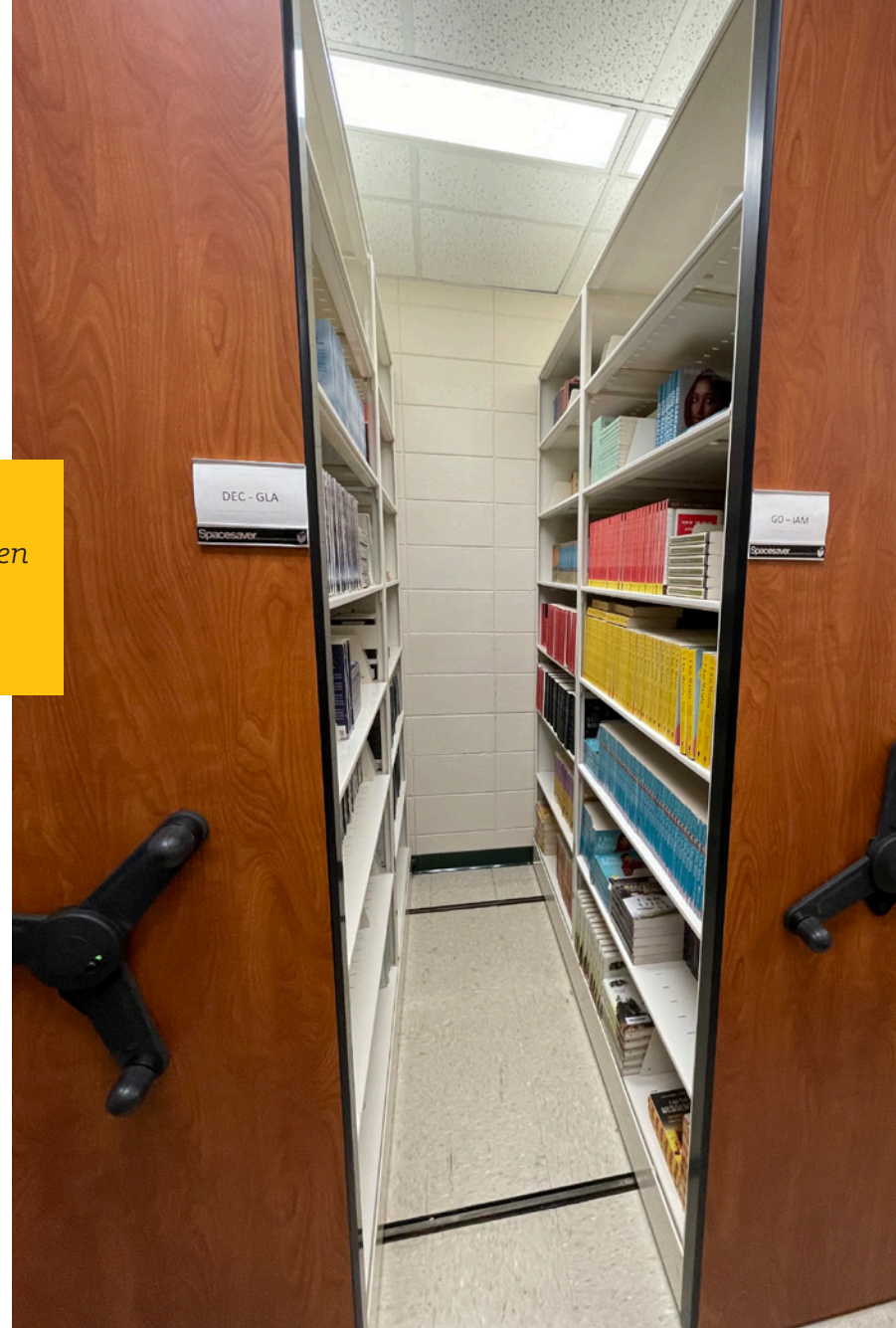
At Spacesaver, we are proud to say all our solutions are made in the USA. Even more local, we strive to support our community in southern Wisconsin. It was this intrinsic value that made our support of Fort Atkinson High School, its students, and its staff a win-win.

*"We strive to engage in local projects, using our solutions to enhance learning spaces and strengthen our community."*

**Mark Haubenschild** | CEO/President of Spacesaver

## Optimizing Space in a 1998 High School Design

When city administrators chose Bray Associates to design Fort Atkinson High School in 1998, they were focused on maximizing project funding while providing storage space and optimizing student work areas. Their goal was to implement storage systems that would efficiently manage their needs and offer space for educators to create an environment where students could freely express themselves in the classroom. This vision also extended beyond the classroom to include the school's athletic storage, varsity locker room, library and media center, and music department storage. It was this diverse set of needs that made Spacesaver and its vast and versatile lineup of K-12 storage solutions a perfect partner for the project.



# Optimizing Education: A Closer Look at Fort Atkinson High School

The school's layout is divided into distinct academic sections, each featuring a communal space surrounded by classrooms. In the heart of each academic pod are centralized storage rooms, each equipped with a tailored Spacesaver High-Density Mobile System. In total, ten different mobile systems (powered and mechanical assist) were strategically deployed across the various departments, catering to the specific requirements of each and optimizing the organization of materials used throughout the year.

By keeping materials in centralized storage rooms, the school ensures easier access for all department members and encourages collaboration and resource-sharing among teachers - promoting a more effective educational environment. Let's explore each department's unique installations in more detail in the following sections.

## IMC Innovation

Within the Integrated Media Center, also referred to as the library, Spacesaver's solutions have optimized the way materials are stored and accessed. Chromebooks, textbooks, and an array of educational resources can easily be accessed and accounted for in their dedicated spaces, thanks to these innovative storage solutions. These shelving units are more than just functional; they serve as statement pieces within the library. Enhanced with wood paneling that complements with the room's theme, the shelving units are a testament to the combination of functionality and aesthetics, contributing to the library's overall appeal and creating a beautifully pleasing environment for learning.



Additionally, the library features a Powered High-Density Mobile System tucked away in the back room. Managed by the librarian, the system frees up valuable space in the common area to accommodate student-centric activities including reading, group discussions, and study sessions - enhancing the overall learning atmosphere.



## THE SOLUTION

### *Science Storage Solved*

The Science Department storage room features a Powered High-Density Mobile System that provides a secure home for an array of science equipment from textbooks to physics, biology, and chemistry supplies.

With an endless need for tools and equipment in a busy science classroom, the ability to tuck away currently unused items in a separate storage room offers a significant advantage. Depending on the curriculum, some items may only see use once a year, but are essential to retain. By housing these items in a high-density mobile system, clutter in the classroom is kept at bay, ensuring a clean, organized learning environment.



*“These units are very adaptable, have withstood 25 years of storage, and are still looking great.”*

**Justin Frey** | Science Teacher



### *A Literary Legacy in the English Department*

Just like the Science Department, the English Department requires its own brand of storage efficiency. In its dedicated storage room, you'll find a Spacesaver High-Density Mechanical Assist Mobile Storage System. Teachers across the department utilize this versatile storage system to house books for their students, all within the confines of a compact storage room.

"My favorite thing about these units is they don't have fixed shelves. Spacesaver's products offer flexible shelves that I can adjust seamlessly. They can accommodate two rows of novels, but also a single, larger textbook." - Andrea Moser, English Teacher

This additional storage space has allowed the English Department to free up valuable real estate within the classroom. As a result, they've created a vibrant makerspace area, filled with relevant books for students to take home and enjoy, without the need to store textbooks within the classroom itself. The Spacesaver storage solution offers versatility, accommodating a wide array of literary materials from dramas and plays to short story collections, videos, DVDs, and much more.

## Smart Storage for Diverse Departments

In the World Language, Social Studies, Agriculture, and Mathematics Departments, there is one common goal: maximize space and enhance the learning environment. To help in doing so while revolutionizing the way they organize their resources, each department has been equipped with either a Mechanical Assist or Powered High-Density Mobile System in their respective space. Within these storage rooms there are numerous items from textbooks and supplies to magazines and newspapers, optimally stored to free up valuable classroom space. This approach ensures students have room to engage in collaborative learning, fostering growth and camaraderie.

The Music Department, too, benefits from this space-saving approach. Its Powered High-Density Mobile System accommodates an extensive range of items including sheet music, LP albums, and books. Together, these departments and their complementary storage systems help to create an environment where every inch is optimized for learning and creativity.

*“Being able to quickly grab and go is what makes this storage solution my favorite.”* **Casey Klein** | Math Teacher



## THE SOLUTION

### *Brushing Up on Artful Storage*

The Art Room is where the magic happens. It is bursting with creativity and inspiration that greets you the moment you step inside. Requiring an extensive collection of tools and materials for both students and teachers, effective storage is imperative to the department's success. What sets the Art Department apart is that students are allowed to actively engage with the department's Powered High-Density Mobile System. This freedom helps to foster a sense of ownership and control over their artistic endeavors, allowing them to access necessary supplies, store their projects, and retrieve them as needed.

"Having the students be self-sufficient with their own art is what truly makes this unit helpful, as it allows them to feel in control of their own things." - Angie Szabo, Art Teacher

One of the system's standout features is its space-saving ability. Allowing for more art projects to be housed in a compact area, the system replaces a need for rows upon rows of traditional shelving units, streamlining the storage process.



### **FUN FACT:**

*Ms. Szabo shared some amusing discoveries from the depths of her storage unit. When she first was introduced to this system upon starting her career at the high school, she stumbled upon unexpected treasures, including a complete basketball hoop with backboard, Korean War Cannon Plugs, and even a kitchen sink. This multifaceted storage solution truly knows how to surprise!*

## Spacesaver's Game-Changing Athletic Rooms

Athletic rooms endure significant wear and tear, making durability a crucial factor. The boys' varsity locker room received a much-needed overhaul with the introduction of Spacesaver's lockers. These lockers not only had to withstand physical stress but also address the concern of security, as theft was a recurring issue.

Steve Mahoney, Athletic & Activities Director, attests to the transformation these lockers brought. With their previous, less-substantial lockers in place, the school received complaints from athletes, parents, and coaches about stolen items. However, since the installation of Spacesaver's more-robust lockers, theft is no longer a concern.

The emphasis on durability has created an "indestructible" characteristic in the locker room. This improved environment not only protects athletic gear but also fosters a culture of pride among the athletes, in both their team and their school. It's a win-win for everyone involved.

Along with the locker room is the athletic equipment storage room that was in disarray and lacking capacity prior to working with Spacesaver. After conducting a space assessment, Spacesaver designed a custom storage solution tailored to meet the school's specific needs. A Mechanical Assist High-Density Mobile Shelving System was selected to house the football team's athletic equipment.



*"When it comes to Fort Atkinson Athletes, Spacesaver is storage solved."*

**Steve Mahoney** | Athletic & Activities Director



## THE RESULT

### *Shaping the Future of Fort Atkinson High School*

Spacesaver's contribution to Fort Atkinson High School extends beyond mere storage solutions. It's about empowering students and educators, preserving valuable resources, and fostering a sense of pride within the school's community. By providing innovative storage solutions, Spacesaver has enabled the entire school to thrive in an organized and inspiring environment.

The positive impact is undeniable, as students and teachers alike experience the benefits of these innovative storage solutions daily. Whether it's creating a more organized classroom, fostering a sense of ownership and control, or enhancing the overall learning atmosphere, Spacesaver's dedication to maximizing space and efficiency has redefined the educational experience at Fort Atkinson High School, ensuring a brighter and more organized future for generations of students to come.

Contact us to connect with your local Spacesaver consultant, who can coordinate with our in-house engineers, project managers, and manufacturing professionals to design, build, and install enduring storage solutions that will stand the test of time.

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