

BLUE VALLEY SOUTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL, OVERLAND PARK, KS

PROJECT CASE STUDY



LEGACY® ACOUSTICAL SHELL, STUDENT CHAIRS AND CLASSIC 50® MUSIC STANDS

“Wenger equipment is sturdy and very easy to use. It’s worth paying a little bit more when you know something is going to last.”

*– Susan Scheibler
Fine Arts Coordinator and Choir Director*



LEGACY® ACOUSTICAL SHELL, VERSALITE® STAGING, STAGE BOXES



VERSALITE® STAGING

CHALLENGE

Equip new high school music suite, theatre department and auditorium with rehearsal and performance equipment.

WENGER SOLUTION

Assisting music faculty with product selections to meet current needs and future growth. Providing furnishings and equipment with coordinated aesthetics. Designing and installing optimal arrangement of instrument cabinets.

BENEFITS

- Innovative, user-friendly equipment reduces handling time
- Mobile, flexible staging platforms serve multiple uses around school
- Custom orchestra pit filler expands stage beautifully
- Durable, well-engineered products deliver long-term value
- Choral risers and acoustical shell enhance concert experience
- Adaptable theatre furniture offers versatility and comfort

HIGHLIGHTS

“When ordering Wenger, I think the quality and the history of the products speaks for itself,” says Susan Scheibler, Fine Arts Coordinator and Choir Director at Blue Valley Southwest High School, Overland Park, KS.

Scheibler ordered everything for this new school’s choir, band and orchestra programs, drawing on her previous experience with Wenger equipment. When making purchase decisions, she considered what equipment would save time and help students and performances be successful. She also recalled her experience with lookalike products.

“The other catalogs or ads might look good, but when you actually try the product it’s difficult to use or not as sturdy,” comments Scheibler, adding that Wenger equipment is durable and very easy to use.

“People are willing to pay a little bit more if they know something’s going to last, rather than spending one-third less money and knowing they’ll have to turn around and buy it again,” Scheibler contends.

Having seen Versalite® platforms used at other facilities, Scheibler wanted them for the new school. “They’re great!” she declares. “We set them up in different heights and configurations – the process is pretty quick and easy.” Scheibler also appreciates the sure footing the platforms provide. “Like everything else Wenger makes, they’re sturdy – I feel like the students are safe dancing on them.”

When performing more stationary songs, or to create a different look onstage, Scheibler’s students utilize Stage Boxes in various formations.

“It works well to have Versalite platforms set up further upstage, with Stage Boxes used downstage,” she explains.

Choir students also perform frequently on Signature choral risers, risers that Scheibler often sets up alone. “I’m five feet tall and I can handle them myself,” she comments. “I think that’s amazing when you consider how many people the risers can support.”

The Legacy acoustical shell is another product Scheibler easily handles by herself. “The shell is wonderful – we can really notice the huge difference it makes because we’ve practiced in the auditorium without it,” she explains. The shell enables students to hear themselves better and also helps project their sound to the audience.

And while the audience appreciates the sound enhancement, another feature of this 600-seat auditorium likely goes unnoticed: a custom STRATA® Orchestra Pit Filler that Scheibler describes as “gorgeous.”

In Blue Valley’s theatre department, Theatre Director Dan C. Schmidt recognizes the important roles played by Wenger equipment.

“The Stage Boxes are very adaptable – we use them daily in acting classes,” he says. “We can make them into couches, tables or even an airplane, until the real sets are in.” Stage Boxes also serve as sets when a show tours, such as trips to local schools.

Versalite platforms and Portable Audience Chairs receive frequent use in the school’s black box theatre, which can be configured to seat 100 people. Classes are also held in this space; Schmidt says students appreciate the excellent visibility and comfortable seats.

“These chairs are awesome!” exclaims Schmidt, noting he’s wanted them for a long time. “I think they’ll last forever.”

And he echoes Scheibler’s praise of the Versalite platforms. “They’re easy for students to put up or take down. And once they’re up, you know they’re sturdy.” The school’s Versalite inventory is also used in the gym for assemblies and ceremonies.

Schmidt concludes, “Wenger is the brand you go to for arts-related equipment such theatre seating or chairs – they are the only company you look at.”



STAGE BOXES, PORTABLE AUDIENCE CHAIRS & VERSALITE® PLATFORMS

PRODUCT LIST

Versalite® Platforms, Stage Boxes, Signature® Choral Risers, Legacy® Acoustical Shells, Student Chairs, Classic 50® Stands, Move & Store Carts, Portable Audience Chairs, Conductor’s System, Percussion Workstation, Markerboards, Stereo Workstations, Instrument Storage Cabinets, String Bass Rack, GearBoss® Team Carts™, Custom STRATA® Pit Filler and Sound-Isolating Music Practice Rooms.