



## Kauri Sue Hamilton School, Riverton - Utah

The Kauri Sue Hamilton School educates and supports students with severe, multiple disabilities. Located in Riverton, Utah, the school houses the district Child Development Center, Placement Office for Special Education, Health Services, and the Jordan School District Audiology Team. It includes a swimming pool, two playgrounds, two multi-sensory environment rooms, therapy treatment rooms, a health clinic, 16 classrooms, a cafeteria, and gymnasium. Open since August 2009, the school accommodates approximately 165 students from Kindergarten through 12th grade with a team of over 100 staff members.

This school replaced Jordan Valley School, which was also singularly dedicated to serving disabled children. Land for the new school was donated by the parents of a former student, Kauri Sue Hamilton, freeing resources for the completion of the project, including extensive equipment considerations.



### Challenge

- ▮ The severe and multiple disabilities of the student body, of which approximately 80% require diapering care, means that facilities need to be not only wheelchair accessible, but also wheelchair friendly - easy to use for both student and attendant. The former school location was outfitted with only stationary changing tables, and teachers and aides frequently changed students on the floor to avoid an additional lift.

### Solution

- ▮ Pressalit Care Height Adjustable Tables (19 total) provided by MAX-Ability, Inc.

### Effect

- ▮ Attendants who are responsible for changing duties many times during a school day can accomplish their tasks ergonomically with minimal risk of injury or fatigue.
- ▮ Physical therapists use the height adjustability to make transfer goals for their students, encouraging as much self-sufficiency as possible for these students.

## The challenge

As a new school with an exclusively special needs based student population, Kauri Sue Hamilton designers and administrators needed to develop a blueprint literally from the ground up - creating a new kind of school that would serve a wide range of physical, educational, and developmental needs.

Back injuries were such a concern that the old school provided a fitness room for the staff, so that they could rehabilitate after injury and strengthen to avoid recurrence.

Barry Smith, lead architect with HFS Architects, learned from teachers and administrators that maintaining adequate supervision within the classroom while attending to students requiring diapering was a major concern. The farther from the classroom that staff needed to go, the longer they were out of the classroom, risking the adequate supervision of students.

## The solution

Pressalit Care Height Adjustable Tables (19 total) provided by MAX-Ability, Inc.



*Pressalit Care  
Height Adjustable Table*

## The effect

A bathroom suite adjoins two classrooms, with two changing tables installed per suite, so that each classroom has its own changing/diapering area. Support personnel can help students needing diapering and remain close enough to assist with monitoring the activities in the classroom.

Changing tables are also available in the pool area and Child Development Center (a pre-kindergarten learning center). Students using wheelchairs can easily access facilities, saving time, effort, overcrowding, and providing dignity and privacy.

**“I can tell you I have never heard anyone complain about your tables or say that they wish they were different. And I know they are saving people’s backs!”**

*Rita Bouillon, Principal*