

PEARSON

Challenge

All school districts in Arizona must fulfill state reporting requirements and Williams Unified School District, a 700-student district in the rural area of Williams, Arizona, was no exception.

In 2000, the district wanted to upgrade its student information system (SIS) with a customized, web-based solution that would better enable the district to collect and utilize accurate attendance and data reporting for the state's requirements.

While the enhanced reporting and collecting features were a definite requirement for a new student information system, the district also needed a system that would allow parents to become involved with student performance and achievement on a regular basis and enable administrators and end-users to work independently and begin to assess student performance trends.

Solution

Every school faces its own unique set of features and challenges; the key is identifying those that are most critical. For the Williams Unified School District, customization was key. With more than ten SIS solutions in the market to choose from, the district selected Pearson's PowerSchool, the first student information system designed from the ground up as a web-based solution.

With the best achievement data analysis and decision support tool available today, PowerSchool provided Williams Unified administrators, teachers, students, and parents with the comprehensive software options necessary to customize solutions that meet the district's end-user needs.

"Customization is powerful. With PowerSchool, our staff, parents and teachers are finally empowered with the right information," said Kate Wamble, Data Coordinator, Williams Unified School District. "Pearson's web-based solution has been invaluable to us and continues to have a significant impact on student performance within our district."



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Kate Wamble, Data Coordinator, Williams Unified School District

Benefits

For the past eight years, PowerSchool has engaged all district stakeholders in the success of Williams Unified students. Administratively, the solution has streamlined the districts' processes; enabled the district to accurately meet state reporting requirements; and empowered end-users to work independently through customized system features.

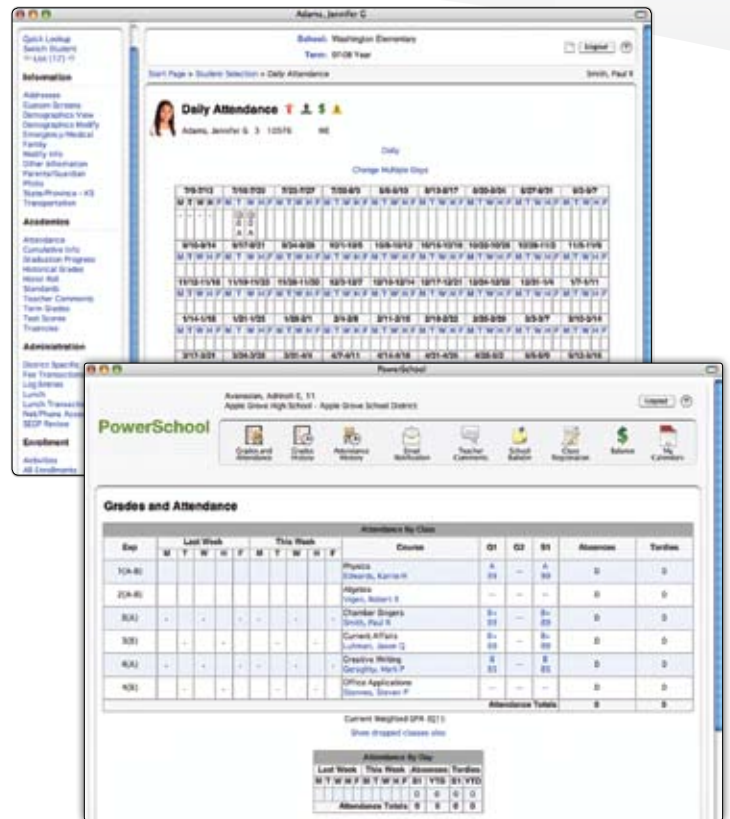
The right SIS solution ultimately powers student performance and PowerSchool has helped the Williams Unified School District achieve this. Through this solution, district educators have had – and continue to have - the opportunity to receive and communicate targeted and comprehensive information in real-time, allowing the focus to be placed on student performance.

Based upon the success of PowerSchool and its ability to meet the needs of the Williams Unified School District, the district has decided to upgrade to the Premier version – complete with the PowerTeacher, Pearson's web grade book and teacher toolset for the 2008-2009 school year. Whether inside or out of the classroom, teachers will now have online access to schedules, grades, homework, and attendance information making it easier for parents and teachers to stay in close contact with student progress.

Combined with the vast popularity of the parent portal which gives parents and students access to real-time information including attendance, grades and detailed assignment descriptions, this performance infrastructure has truly enabled students, parents, teachers, and administrators in this small, rural district to dream big and achieve great success in student achievement.

About Pearson

Pearson is the global leader in educational publishing, assessment, information and services, helping people of all ages to learn at their own pace, in their own way. For students preK-12, Pearson provides effective and innovative curriculum products in all available media, educational assessment and measurement for students and teachers, student information systems, and teacher professional development and certification programs. Our respected brands include PowerSchool Premier, Chancery SMS, Pearson Inform, Scott Foresman, Prentice Hall and many others. Our comprehensive offerings help inform targeted instruction and intervention so that success is within reach of every student. Pearson’s other primary businesses include the Financial Times Group and the Penguin Group.



Administrators

Provides the range of features needed by administrators at the district and school level:

- Student enrollment
- Attendance
- Student demographics
- Parent/guardian information
- Emergency/medical information
- Student and faculty schedules
- Report generation
- Discipline
- Faculty demographics
- Activities

Parents and Students

Lets parents become more involved in their child’s education:

- Grades
- Attendance
- Assignments
- Teacher comments
- School bulletin
- Fees