Earlham Community SD Improves Transparency into Student Performance with Unified Classroom™

The K-12 education experience significantly improves when it's easier to get to student data. This simple truth was realized by Earlham Community School District as educators began to experience challenges in using separate technology to enter grades and view student performance.

Teachers were spending several extra hours per week entering grades into the district's former student information system and its LMS (PowerSchool Learning). Parents were frustrated by the difficulty of viewing their children's grades by having to log into multiple accounts.

Realizing the Need for Unification

In an effort to put teachers, parents, and students on the same team, the district expanded its partnership with PowerSchool by implementing PowerSchool Unified Classroom. Creating a data-informed culture—one that streamlines processes and provides a single view of student performance to better gauge where each student is in their learning journey—became a mission that district staff wanted to pursue.

Backstory

Iowa's Earlham Community Schools resides just 20 minutes west of West Des Moines, in a small town with an inviting community. The public school district seeks to empower innovative, adaptive, and resourceful learners with the skills needed to positively impact the world.

Challenge

Teachers were spending extra hours per week entering grades into disparate systems; leading to miscommunication between educators, students, and parents

Decision

PowerSchool Unified Classroom™

Results

Improved transparency into student performance; educators have the resources they need to identify students who are struggling and help them realize their potential

"We were looking for a solution that would allow parents, teachers, and students to see everything all in one dashboard," says **Bailey Gulley**, Secondary Instructional Coach at Earlham Community School District. "The Unified Classroom presented us with the opportunity to achieve that goal."

> "Within PowerSchool Unified Classroom, we are able to organize our units so students can see what they need to. We are also able to use [those pages] from year to year—allowing us to repurpose engaging content for future learners."
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> **BAILEY GULLEY**
> Secondary Instructional Coach
> Earlham Community SD, Earlham, IA

Meeting the Academic Needs of Every Learner

In leveraging PowerSchool Unified Classroom to focus on student achievement, teachers of Earlham Community School District have found the solution easy to use. **"We can quickly identify students who are struggling with specific standards which makes it easier to intervene and respond to their individual needs,"** says Gulley.

Flexibility is a feature most valued by Earlham school educators as they look back and compare usage of previous learning management systems to what they now have in PowerSchool Unified Classroom. To be able to organize unit by unit and lesson by lesson provides teachers with the capability to control when students see what they have posted. This functionality was limited with other solutions, preventing teachers from organizing the feed that populates a student's dashboard when they log in.

"Other solutions we have used work more like a social media platform where students just see what teachers have posted at the top of their feed," says Gulley.

Fueling Student Achievement

The day-to-day efficiency and productivity has improved at Earlham Community School District since launching PowerSchool Unified Classroom.

For teachers to have everything in one location significantly reduces the stress they previously experienced juggling multiple systems to manage instruction and learning. "When our students log in to the Unified Classroom, they immediately see what expectations, assignments, and learning targets they want to achieve for the day," says Gulley. **"We have been able to improve transparency into student performance for teachers, students, and parents so that we can collectively work to advance student achievement."**

At PowerSchool, we believe in the simple truth that every student deserves the best opportunities in life.

That's why our mission is to power the education ecosystem with unified technology that helps educators and students realize their potential, in their way. From the back office to the classroom to the home, PowerSchool helps schools and districts efficiently manage instruction, learning, grading, attendance, assessment, analytics, state reporting, special education, student registration, and ERP/HR/Finance. Today, we're proud to be the leading provider of K-12 education application technology **supporting over 30 million students in over 70 countries.**

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