

Small District Getting Big Benefits with PowerSchool Unified Classroom™

The issue was clear. Students were getting overloaded with too many tests and assignments stacked on the same day, and teachers needed clear visibility into each student's complete school day in order to help.

With fewer than 200 students and 31 teachers, Bolton Central School District has individualized instruction covered. What it lacked, however, was a collaboration tool between teachers to make sure they weren't overloading students with too much work and tests between their full class schedule.

Overwhelmed Students Need a Break

"We needed to give all teachers a complete view of each student's day and week for their entire schedule. Teachers had no clear idea of a student's school day, and suddenly a student would get several tests and assignments on the same day," says Steve Showers, CIO and Coordinator of Pupil Services at Bolton Central School District.



Backstory

Established in 1927, upstate New York's Bolton Central School District serves 194 students in PK-12 classes. The district features 31 state-certified teachers and an impressive 8:1 pupil/teacher ratio. Bolton Central takes pride in being a future-ready district, embracing new technology early on, and has used PowerSchool Student Information System since 2001.



Challenge

Lack of visibility into student schedules and performance



Decision

PowerSchool
Unified Classroom™



Results

360-degree views of student performance

Connecting the Classroom, Connecting Students

When the district saw PowerSchool Unified Classroom™ in action, it appreciated the potential that a central student dashboard held. Teachers could see a 360-degree view of not only a student's schedule but also of their performance and academic trends. The Unified Classroom empowers teachers to manage



"We are a tiny school with less than 200 students, and PowerSchool has been very responsive to our unique needs over the years. PowerSchool technical support has always been very helpful any time we call."

STEVE SHOWERS

CIO and Coordinator of Pupil Services
Bolton Central SD, Bolton Landing, NY

the entire instructional process more efficiently, combining PowerSchool's student information system, assessment, learning, and gradebook systems into a single, unified software solution.

"The dashboard was one of the most important features for us. Teachers wanted to see everything in one, easy-to-find spot. **Instead of clicking around everywhere to get information, everything was sitting right in front of them,**" Showers says.

Bolton Central piloted the Unified Classroom with a small group of middle and high school teachers. After getting positive feedback from those teachers, the district expanded implementation to the rest of the grades.

"Being a new solution, Unified Classroom was very different for many of our more experienced teachers. But it's intuitive, and once I walked them through initial steps in navigating, they saw how easy it was and how much it was similar to our previous PowerSchool products," says Showers.

Big Benefits for a Small District

Both teachers and parents appreciate the newfound visibility they have into the student's complete educational experience. Parents are happy with the ability to see everything up front in the dashboard, especially trends with their student's performance.

"Teachers like the quick view of grades showing in multiple colors," Showers says. **"They can easily see which students understand that topic, which ones are close to getting it, and which ones need help. We can see that information without having to do heavy data analysis."**

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 Finance/HR/ERP. 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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