



Challenge

Proctor Public Schools of Proctor, Minnesota believes that quality education inspires learners to meet the challenges of the future. Early on the school district recognized the impact that parental involvement and parent/teacher collaboration could have on academic performance. But they needed to build the best technology infrastructure to make this vision a reality.

Ready to move on from its outdated system, the 1900-student district needed to find a web-based student information system that could offer end user benefits like a smoother, easier to use interface; customizable, flexible features and specifications; and parent portal integration -- all while meeting the unique cost and structure needs of a small school district.

The right technology infrastructure for Proctor Public Schools would enable parents, teachers, students and administrators to work together to improve student achievement and inspire learning by engaging parents in the academic progress; enhance teacher/parent communication and collaboration; and identify trends to support student achievement with the understanding that a collaborative learning process benefits all stakeholders.

Solution

After a thorough evaluation of several industry student information systems, Proctor Public Schools selected Pearson's PowerSchool Premier, the first student information system designed specifically as a web-based solution, which offers easy access, real-time data via a standard web browser, on a Macintosh or Windows PC for K-12 districts.

The new technology infrastructure provided a cost-effective solution that met the district's needs from administrative tasks and state reporting to web-based reporting and attendance. With a clean, easy-to-use interface and customizable options, PowerSchool Premier set a new standard for the administrative staff. The web-



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Dean Dahlvang, Director of Administrative Technology for Proctor Public Schools

based solution also enabled teachers to take better attendance in the classroom, which could be reported to the state accurately and on time.

Proctor Public Schools faced a challenging task in getting teachers and parents up to speed with a new system while maintaining its district-wide focus on student achievement and learning; however, decision makers knew that this change would have a profound impact on individualized learning. The integration of PowerSchool Premier's parent portal would ensure that schools and districts could engage and communicate with parents whenever and wherever they are on an entirely new level for the district.

Benefits

Above all, the Pearson solution has taken parent/student/teacher collaboration to a new level. To date, 91% of student records have been accessed by parents. In fact, parents are so excited with the enhanced level of communication with teachers that they've already request additional access and more customized features for the portal. The tool has been particularly beneficial to high school students who have used the system as a resource for the college application process.

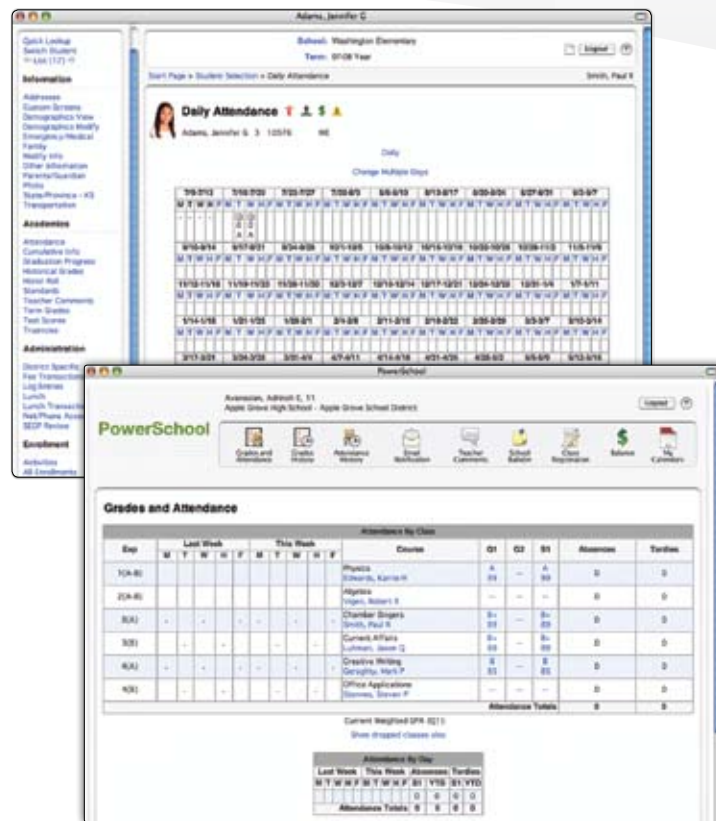
“We have received tremendous feedback from parents on PowerSchool’s parent portal and the impact it has had on student learning in our district,” said Dean Dahlvang, Director of Administrative Technology for Proctor Public Schools. “From flexibility and customization to communication and accountability, Pearson has enabled us to build a successful, robust technology infrastructure that has better prepared us for the future.”

With the success of the parent portal and customizable features of PowerSchool Premier, Proctor Public Schools is eager to launch the next phase of PowerSchool Premier in the fall of 2008 with PowerTeacher, Pearson’s web-based grade book for teachers. The grade book will simplify the tasks that Proctor teachers perform daily by taking attendance, entering grades, initiating student and parent communication, posting assignments, and assessing student alerts and demographic information.

This integrated approach, which brings small-sized districts a higher return on investment by minimizing training, maintenance and future expenditures, is the next step in delivering quality education to the students – and future leaders – of Proctor, Minnesota.

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