

Pryor Public Schools: Small District, Big Future

PRYOR, MONTANA / 100 STUDENTS

Pryor Public Schools (PPS) is a small rural district on the Crow Indian Reservation that consists of an elementary school, middle school and high school. A long time user of PowerSchool, PPS often waited for months, if not an entire quarter, to receive answers to technical assistance questions. So, PPS looked to the future and realized they needed a student information system (SIS) that could better address their student data needs and provide the service and support they required. Their forward thinking led them to choose Infinite Campus, the same choice made by the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) in 2007. The ease of use, custom reporting features and reliable support offered by Infinite Campus were too good to pass up.

Selecting a New SIS

In January 2013, PPS attended a session about Infinite Campus at the Assessment and Data Conference hosted by the Montana OPI. According to Sam Bruner, Pryor Public Schools K-12 Principal, "The Superintendent and I really liked what we saw. The ability to create our own filters and have access to technical assistance at our convenience was an enormous benefit."

Infinite Campus provided a modern day, single solution that addressed outstanding data needs and lowered annual costs. PPS made the decision to switch to Infinite Campus and implemented at the start of the 2013-14 school year.

Creating Custom Ad Hoc Reporting

The integrated and specialized ad hoc reporting tool in Infinite Campus allows PPS to export custom reports. They can create static and dynamic lists of students and add functions to filters

About Campus

- ▶ We are the largest American-owned student information system. Campus applications manage 6.5 million students in 42 states.

for optimal sorting. In addition, reports can be exported into various formats for stakeholder review.

PPS uses their Infinite Campus data to define, filter, format and deliver information required for instruction, accountability, communication, and other essential business processes. The intuitive wizard-style query interface and WYSIWYG report editor allows them to find patterns within their data, determine answers to critical questions, make informed decisions and communicate effectively.

"Infinite Campus allows us to create the reports we need quickly and efficiently," stated Bruner. "We have the ability to test a variety of filters until we get exactly what we want."

What pleases PPS the most is the fact that they can run the ad hoc filter to get the information where they want, when they want it. With PowerSchool, they had to wait for technical support to create filters, which oftentimes took a month or more.

Customized Training and Support

Aside from Ad Hoc Reporting, PPS appreciates the support they have received.

"The online training and technical support for our less tech savvy staff helps them feel more comfortable with the product," said Bruner. "Infinite Campus provides support for all users – both at the administrative and staff level. This support helps create a comfort level with Infinite Campus that surpassed my experience with PowerSchool."

Both phone and online support are always available with Infinite Campus. With a 97 percent support satisfaction rating, calls are answered by a support team member within three rings.

An extensive online support option, the Campus Community, is available 24/7. There is comprehensive product information in the Campus Knowledge Base, and users can interact with other schools in the Campus User Forums.

PPS worked with Campus Trainers to help them create standards-based report cards at the elementary school. The trainers were helpful in providing examples, feedback and support and also assisted with setting up Pryor classes and Grade Books.

According to Bruner, "The amount of staff time saved and the efficiency we have added to our district is phenomenal."

Using Data to Make Informed Decisions

Infinite Campus has helped PPS use their data to make informed decisions. They are able to run eligibility reports, submit state reports accurately and on time, and track a variety of student data points.

"I can't say enough about the Ad-Hoc reporting functionality and filters we use for our Title I and state reports," said Bruner. "They have been invaluable to our district."

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Sam Bruner
Principal
Pryor Public Schools