Washoe County School District Online Registration

WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA / 63,000 STUDENTS

Washoe County School District (WCSD) in Washoe County, Nevada adopted Campus Online Registration and saved $125,000 in printing expenses in its first year alone. Instead of sending every student home with a thick and costly information packet for their parents to fill out each year, they now direct parents to the Campus Portal to enter and update their family's personal information. No more packets, no more printing, lots of savings.

CHALLENGES

WCSD serves around 63,000 students enrolled in ninety-three schools. Washoe schools are like yours. They need to know their students' demographic information for decision making and state reporting purposes. They keep their contact info on file in case of emergencies. They gather information from parents to inform a wide variety of daily operations. In short, they need input from families to help them run the district from day to day.

Like many districts, they've traditionally gathered this information by sending home paper packets on an annual basis. It required a lot of printing, logistics, and data entry. Packets got lost and eaten by the family iguana. Busy parents often signed off on their contents without giving more than a brief glance at the paperwork inside. It was, in other words, a normal district with an area in need of improvement.

SOLUTION

That improvement has come with Campus Online Registration. Washoe was the original driver and collaborator in the development of the feature.

About Campus

▶ We are the largest American-owned student information system. Campus applications manage more than 5 million students in 43 states.

They described their needs to Infinite Campus and worked hand in hand with the Campus development team to make sure the tools delivered what they needed.

Campus Online Registration is now a premium service available to all districts that use Infinite Campus District Edition.

Campus Online Registration can:

• Enable parents to update and/or enter demographic, health provider, allergy, health conditions, emergency contact, and student relationships.

• Link to custom forms to meet district needs.

• Provide the ability to print or save registration package and confirmation receipts.

• Send notification emails informing parents of registration status changes.

Because it is integrated with the core Campus application, Online Registration presents pre-populated screens to current parents using Campus Census information. It also eliminates duplicate data entry by staff and parents for multiple children in the household. It maintains the integrity of submitted household data through Campus Census verification by district staff prior to it being approved for use in the core system.

With Online Registration, "We're finding parents are looking at their data more closely than they used to with the paperwork they received," reported Mary Martini, Applications Analyst for Washoe County School District. "With the online data, they have to verify every piece of information and so they're doing things like updating their emergency contact info more frequently and accurately."

The Campus Portal provides a familiar user environment for ease-of-use by parents. It's also a one-stop-shop for the whole family. "If you have five kids in the district you only have to approve a form once. It saves parents time and effort," said Martini.

"We have volunteer applications, the student accord forms and about ten forms in all that parents fill out with Online Registration," continued Martini. "You should have seen our packets before. They were THICK. Now we're not sending them out at all. By going from all packets to no packets overnight, we'll save about $125,000 a year just on packet printing."

RESULTS

In the areas of improved savings and efficiencies, Online Registration has eliminated costly registration material packets and weeks of processing time for new and returning student registration. The process is paperless and the data families submit is received at the speed of light.

"When you compare it to what we were paying per student for printing costs, we have a saved a lot of money with Online Registration," explains Martini. "That was the driving force behind why we decided to do this and to do this for everyone. It's also popular with parents because they do things one time for the whole family. They sit down once a year for 5 to 10 minutes and they're done. It's that simple."

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Applications Analyst
Washoe County School District