

Porterville Unified School District



District Profile

Porterville Unified School District (PUSD) operates 21 schools and serves 14,000+ students in kindergarten through grade twelve. The district currently has an Aeries Student Information System, which includes a parent portal that is used primarily by parents of students in grades seven through twelve. Approximately 60 percent of district parents are enrolled. In addition, PUSD uses Blackboard Connect for messaging parents via text, email, and phone. Google Classroom is used for homework assignments, and teachers often use Remind for direct correspondence with parents.



District Approach

PUSD chose a combination solution that allows for:

- 1 Parent access to Student Score Reports (SSRs) online through the Aeries parent portal
- 2 Copies of paper reports at each school location that can be provided to parents who request paper copies

In the past year, this was done by sending the district copies of the SSRs to the school locations so schools would not have to manage the printing locally.

“The results are getting to parents faster. The electronic reports provide us another avenue to deliver information to parents online instead of using paper. I believe this is a better way to communicate statewide results. The whole process is quick, effective and efficient.”

*Sergio Mendoza,
PUSD Technology Coordinator*



Challenges

PUSD intends to expand the portal to support grades kindergarten through grade six and encourage the online enrollment of all parents. A large portion of the parent population is Spanish speaking, so communications must be done in multiple languages. Although the portal is available to all parents, PUSD recognizes the need to provide paper score reports to parents without access to automated solutions and will allow for the local printing of SSRs at the school sites.



Key Activities

PUSD has initiated the following activities to support better communications with parents:

- Provide both English and Spanish versions of the parent portal
- Offer classes to parents on the use of technology
- Create on-site access to computers at each school location
- Offer clerical support to help parents enroll in the portal
- Provide SSRs in both English and Spanish



Results/Outcomes

PUSD eliminated the mailing of over 10,000 pieces of mail annually:

- Reduced staff time needed to manage the distribution of paper score reports
- Reduced mailing costs
- Parent understanding and awareness of student performance on standardized assessments increased