QuickCards: Making Single Sign-On Even Easier for Younger Students

Overview

INDUSTRY
Education, PreK-12

PROFILE
Leon County Schools is based in Tallahassee, FL and has a total enrollment of 34,000 K-12 students, 2,400 teachers, and 1,900 staff across 62 schools.

CHALLENGE
Leon County Schools switched from Stoneware to ClassLink on their quest for a more flexible Single Sign-On product built exclusively for education. District leaders recognized that an easier sign-in option was needed for their younger students and were pleased to discover QuickCards, one of three sign-in methods offered by ClassLink.

SOLUTION
“QuickCards simply require a student to wave a QR code in front of the computer camera rather than typing any sort of username or password. The procedure is simple enough for five-year-olds to follow. When I walk into my kindergarten and first grade classrooms, I see students working independently at the computers now!”

The Challenge
With the expanded use of digital resources in Leon County Schools, the complexity of computer logins was becoming unmanageable, negatively impacting subscription software utilization rates and rendering digital textbooks practically inaccessible. Each resource required a unique login. In primary grades, small-group instructional time often gave way to time spent by the teacher helping students log in and log out at the computer center. From both the IT and instructional perspectives, streamlining the login process was imperative; despite the streamlined experience that standard single sign-on solutions offer, the district needed something that worked consistently across all of their content providers and that was easier for teachers to assimilate to and for younger students to navigate.

The Solution
Leon County Schools moved to ClassLink in August 2016 to improve access for their K-12 students, teachers, and staff. To enable greater access to computer programs for their younger students, the district began using QuickCards, which contain a QR code that is held up to the camera to instantly log in. Designed for younger students and those who may struggle with typing and/or require assistive technology, QuickCards relieve teachers from having to spend valuable class time on login issues. “Our staff are blown away with how easy it is to log in,” said David Schubert, an Instructional Technology Teacher and School Technology Specialist.

The Outcome
Leon County Schools helped refine the concept and implementation of QuickCards, now available to ClassLink schools around the world. Already enjoying the responsiveness of ClassLink to support needs and rapid development of single sign-on connectors, the district submitted feedback for improving the QuickCard sign-on procedure on tablet computers. Within 24 hours, ClassLink built QuickCard by ClassLink, a brand new, streamlined app designed for five- and six-year-old students to operate independently.

“Our teachers are recovering the time that was previously wasted managing the login process. Time is the most limited resource in our school; we are now recovering up to 30-40 minutes per day.”