Next-Generation Access and Rostering: WA District Selects ClassLink

Overview

INDUSTRY
Education, PreK-12

PROFILE
Central Kitsap School District is based in Kitsap County, WA and has a total enrollment of 11,000 students, 750 teachers, and 1,800 staff, across 19 schools.

CHALLENGE
Central Kitsap Schools struggled with an influx of digital resources and needed a simpler way to deploy and manage a growing number of applications while providing 24/7 access for their students and teachers. After trying SchoolMessenger Passport, the district sought a more streamlined single sign-on solution that would provide easy access and also take advantage of open data standards for rostering.

SOLUTION
“When I first started in the district, we only had 9 or 10 digital resources that required rostering. Now, we are managing access to 65-70 digital resources with ease. There is no way we could manage such a high volume without ClassLink. It’s been a game changer for us.”

PROJECT LEAD

Jennifer Cleven
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The Challenge
Due to a rising number of digital resources, it became unwieldy for district staff to not only manage access but to deal with password reset requests and create different spreadsheets for student enrollment data. After testing other solutions, the district decided to pursue ClassLink. They recognized the need for a more robust platform that would allow for simplified application and file access for their users and could streamline rostering through an open data standard.

Why Interoperability Matters
Central Kitsap’s IT team recognized the importance of having systems that “talk” and ultimately selected ClassLink for its use of IMS Global OneRoster® LTI for SSO and OneRoster® standard for Roster Server. IT staff appreciate that Roster Server is only a handful of steps, rather than dozens.

The Outcome
Since launching their ClassLink portal in June 2017, everyone at Central Kitsap Schools has appreciated one-click access to all of their files and resources. From a PD calendar for staff and a list of closed days to surveys and app notifications, the district uses ClassLink to host all of their digital resources. Although ClassLink is used in all grade levels, the younger students see the most significant impact. They can log-in to their resources independently, allowing the teachers freedom to instruct. The district has reduced the number of questions about lost logins, and users no longer have to hunt for resources. For administrators, ClassLink Roster Server has saved considerable time by streamlining the rostering process.

In the 18-19 school year, Central Kitsap Schools will continue driving more publishers to accept open data standards.

“We walk into publisher meetings and ask if they support OneRoster® and work with ClassLink. If they say no, we explain that this is critical for our district and make sure the publisher is working toward compliance with OneRoster standards.”

Jennifer Cleven, Central Kitsap SD

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