

International School Bangkok – Success Story

“Pearson Inform puts the information in the hands of the teachers. It transforms data information into knowledge teachers can use.”

International School Bangkok Director of Technology, Chad Bates



Challenge

International School Bangkok (ISB) is widely recognized as one of the premier international schools in the world, providing quality education since 1951 to expatriates representing more than 60 countries.

ISB is the largest international school in Bangkok and holds its 1,800 students in grades K–12 to a high standard — 60 percent of the student body is in the 80 to 100 percentile of the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing.

ISB was using an antiquated system to manage their student information. Manual uploads were required to synchronize the teachers' grade books and web portal. The system offered little opportunity to individualize reports and uploads always forced them to work to a deadline. The interface was cumbersome and offered little flexibility for reporting.

“We had lots of raw data and information about the students,” said Chad Bates, Director of Technology for ISB, “but no way to organize, explore, and then use the data to improve student learning.”

In 2007, ISB implemented Pearson's PowerSchool® student information system. Two years later, they added Pearson Inform™ for data reporting and analytics. Combined, this integrated solution gave ISB the information they needed to monitor and proactively impact student performance.

Solution

With the integration of PowerSchool and Pearson Inform, ISB administration and teachers have visibility into student data through a management system designed around a web-based architecture. Administrators have single sign-on access to reports that provide summary and detailed reviews of a student's or group of students' performance.

This information can be accessed anytime, anywhere with a web browser. With this solution, all data about the student, including performance, attendance, discipline, grading, schedules, and more are in one location for easy accessibility. Tools such as the parent portal and the grade book are intuitive and provide teachers, parents, and students with real-time information that can be quickly acted upon.

“The automatic synchronization between PowerSchool's grade book and student/parent web portal is simple and effective,” Bates said. “PowerSchool can house all of our student information and be the center of our data, rather than a peripheral piece.”

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ISB regularly uses PowerSchool's integrated report writer that provides a variety of default reports, plus the ability to easily create custom reports. With more than 150 reports and thousands of pages and functions, PowerSchool provides a complete data management system for educators. PowerSchool's functions are further extended with the integration of Pearson Inform. Clear, intuitive reports on student and school performance are made available to ISB in PowerSchool through Pearson Inform. Graphs and charts—predefined or customized—assist educators in targeting assessment, measuring progress, and data-driven decision making.

The system documents interventions and meets reporting requirements for English language learner (ELL) programs, special education programs, at-risk programs, and gifted and talented programs.

Benefits

The two-prong solution enables ISB to cut “busy work” for administrators and give teachers tools to create learning curriculum. The web-based PowerSchool system automates time consuming tasks and streamlines administrative activities.

“It has transformed how we track student performance,” Bates said. “We can teach curriculum which ultimately leads to quality learning. Parents and students appreciate the anywhere/anytime access to information,” Bates said. “Parents now expect an interactive system.”

Through Pearson Inform's integration with PowerSchool, curriculum performance data can be assessed with greater results. Pearson Inform allows schools to organize information, look for trends, and explore hunches with the click of a button. As a result, teachers and administrators can spend more time creating performance plans for students and less time trying to analyze student information from a variety of sources.

Additionally, ISB teachers quickly identify and target intervention groups based on their own criteria, including grade, class, and test scores. Monitoring the progress of these groups allows ISB to identify students who need help and develop personalized plans to drive improvement at all levels.

About Pearson

Pearson, the global leader in education and education technology, reaches and engages today's digital natives with effective and personalized learning, as well as professional development for their teachers. The commitment is demonstrated in the company's investment in innovative print and digital education materials for pre-K through college, student information systems and learning management systems, teacher professional development, career certification programs, and testing and assessment products that set the standard for the industry. The company's respected brands include Scott Foresman, Prentice Hall, Addison Wesley, Benjamin Cummings, PEMSolutions, Stanford 10, SuccessNet, MyLabs, PowerSchool, SuccessMaker, and many others.

For more information about PowerSchool, please visit our website at www.PearsonSchoolSystems.com, call 877.873.1550, or email us at pss_sales@pearson.com.