

NEWS RELEASE

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CENTER LINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SELECT PEARSON SCHOOL SYSTEMS PRODUCTS TO ADDRESS ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING NEEDS

*First School District in Michigan to Implement Customizable Systems
Designed to Facilitate Data-Driven Instruction and Increase Student Performance Gains*

Mesa, Ariz. -- June 8, 2005 -- A new district-wide initiative at Center Line Public Schools, a suburb of Detroit, Michigan, has put this K-12 school district on the cutting edge of data-driven decision making in education. As a result of this initiative, Center Line administrators can quickly and accurately assess student progress against predetermined standards, and then direct instructional decisions that can lead to improved student outcomes.

Central to this enterprise is the announcement today that the district has selected Pearson Benchmark, a web-based toolset for test creation, delivery, scoring and reporting – all tied to state and district curriculum standards; and Pearson Inform, a K-12 achievement analysis and decision support system for fast and functional reporting on school performance.

“The strength of the assessment and reporting features is what drew us to the Pearson School Systems products,” said Mario Gallegos, technology director for Center Line Public Schools. “What sold us is how they will help us shift our attention beyond simply testing and give us the resources needed to actually use the assessment information to improve student achievement.”

Pearson School Systems, the leading provider of innovative education technologies to K-12 school districts nationwide, developed Pearson Benchmark in an effort to quickly and accurately pinpoint student strengths and weaknesses against predetermined standards -- at any time over the course of the academic year. With the ability to gather student performance results collected over time, teachers and administrators can readily monitor student progress, address deficiencies and recheck mastery – by class, course, grade level, school or even various demographics. With Pearson Benchmark in place, Center Line educators can deliver a wide array of reporting and analytic capabilities, fulfilling the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements for adequate yearly progress (AYP), while providing a comprehensive view of progress from student to classroom to school to district.

Leveraging raw data from multiple sources, including the Pearson SASI student information system currently used by Center Line as well as state high-stakes test, national norm-referenced tests, district benchmark tests and school and classroom criterion-referenced tests, Pearson Inform will give the district stakeholders a way to capture, share and report on a variety of student and assessment information. It will allow the district and its various schools to view performance data at the district, school, classroom, and individual levels, side-by-side against target benchmarks. In addition the highly flexible and user-friendly Pearson Inform query system will give the Center Line educators a complete solution to analyze student performance, identify achievement gaps, and easily create relevant reports. The result: pertinent intervention strategies can be developed and implemented in order to fulfill NCLB and AYP requirements.

Gallegos added, “When we evaluated and eventually selected the Pearson School Systems products -- Pearson Benchmark and Pearson Inform -- it was not just about assessment for the sake of assessment or just about raising test scores. It was about finding out what each of our students, in each of their classes, in each of our schools, knows and understands so that our teachers can develop lessons for the specific learning needs of each child. It is, and always will be, about helping our students learn and excel.”

About Center Line Public Schools

The Center Line Public School district is a suburb of Detroit. Located in Macomb County, the district enrolls approximately 3,000 students in kindergarten through grade twelve. Nearly 35 percent of the student population is eligible to receive free and reduced price lunches.

About Pearson School Systems

Pearson School Systems (PSS) is changing the face of K-12 student performance and information management through its offering of tightly-integrated, mission critical district enterprise solutions.

As both an industry pioneer and market trend setter, PSS offers management solutions that easily and significantly combine the power of student information, assessment, reporting, and business tools into a comprehensive and collaborative effort.

Through its innovative, digital solutions, PSS is dedicated to helping schools perform and students succeed. It's all-encompassing product lineup includes [SASI](#) the widely acclaimed, comprehensive student information system; [Pearson Centerpoint](#); the multi-platform, Web-based student information and performance management system; [CIMS®](#) the comprehensive finance, human resources, and student information system; [Pearson Inform](#), the achievement data analysis and decision support tool; and [Pearson Benchmark](#), the customizable, Web-based district benchmark testing solution.

PSS is a business unit of Pearson Education, the world's leading integrated education company, which in turn is part of Pearson (NYSE: PSO), the international media company. For more information please visit: www.pearsonschoolsystems.com

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