

SCHOOLINKS.COM

Switzerland of Ohio Local School District: How One Students' Testimony Helped Improve CCR Across the District

1

Introduction

Switzerland of Ohio Local School District (SOLSD), nestled along the picturesque Ohio River, is a small rural district known for its commitment to providing quality education to its nearly 2,000 students in Monroe County. This case study explores how this tight-knit community discovered SchooLinks, a robust educational platform transforming college and career readiness programs across Ohio.

We interviewed an educator and a student to learn about their experiences with SchooLinks and how it has positively impacted their educational journeys.



The Teacher

A Bridge Between Students and Opportunities

Amy Shreve, a Senior Government and College Liaison teacher at SOLSD, is vital in connecting high school students with local colleges and career opportunities. In a district of this size, maintaining these connections is crucial. This teacher's workload is demanding, as she noted the challenges of "ensuring that each student has access to the information and resources they need to succeed."

Amy's journey with SchooLinks began when she learned about the platform from her nephew, a student at a neighboring school district. Her nephew demonstrated the platform's capabilities, showcasing how it facilitated his college application process. Amy recognized the potential of SchooLinks to bridge the information gap in her own district and decided to explore it further. Intrigued by the possibilities, she recognized that SchooLinks was ideally suited to their school's size and the need for students to connect to

educational opportunities. Amy shared how SchooLinks could alleviate some of the counselor's daily workload, empowering other educators to support college and career readiness through this platform, noting, "SchooLinks helps us to always be connected with any student, at any time."

While the SOLSD already had programs in place to improve college and career readiness, local job opportunities were on the rise, increasing the demand for a streamlined and comprehensive tool that could combine the solutions needed for college research and application tracking with career exploration and workplace opportunities. Previously, the district had college and career readiness activities spread across several platforms, leading to a lack of cohesion in student lessons and activities. SchooLinks consolidated all these activities into a single, userfriendly tool.

The Student

Simplifying the Complex Journey to Higher Education

Amy's nephew, Brendan, gave a glowing review of the impact SchooLinks has had on his senior year. For him, SchooLinks was a much-needed relief in simplifying the complex journey of college and career readiness. Brendan found the platform easy to use, particularly as a senior, when the pressure of planning for higher education is at its peak. SchooLinks' financial aid tools, scholarship opportunities, and college research features were invaluable to the student. They highlighted the ease of aligning their Common App account, requesting transcripts, and accessing necessary forms, making applying to colleges much more manageable than anticipated. Amy's nephew noted how SchooLinks streamlined the college application process, making it less stressful for him and his family.

Brendan's testimony about the ease of use and the support provided by SchooLinks was pivotal. Their firsthand experience with the platform was a gamechanger. As he shared his positive experience using the platform with his aunt, she was eager to bring it back to her community so her students could access the same resources.

"As a senior being able to use the program for the quote-left scholarships and finances, it puts everything together perfectly. It was so easy to use. You're able to get in and do everything you need to help the college application process. Its nice to have everything all in one place, its a great platform to have!" - Brendan, Senior Student.

Impact & Implementation

Expanding to More Stakeholders

Encouraged by her nephew's testimonial, Amy presented SchooLinks to the district Superintendent. A brief demonstration with a SchooLinks representative underscored the platform's potential and the opportunities it offered to enhance college and career readiness programming. The district was enthusiastic about adopting SchooLinks for the upcoming school year.

SOLSD is now poised to leverage SchooLinks to provide its students with comprehensive college and career readiness support. The district looks forward to offering their community's youth the necessary resources and guidance they need to confidently pursue their dreams. SchooLinks has proven to be a transformative tool for the district. It has simplified the college and career readiness process, strengthened connections with local colleges, and empowered students and educators. As the district embarks on its journey with SchooLinks, the focus remains on enriching the educational experience and opening doors to bright futures for all its students.

"When I saw everything the program has to offer and once I brought it back to the district, with the feedback from students and how much they've enjoyed using the platform, its been amazing! The whole program is amazing." - Amy Shreve, Sr. Government Teacher

Summary

This case study presents a compelling example of how the exchange of information and innovative solutions can positively impact student success. The willingness of Amy to explore new tools and resources, based on her nephew's recommendation, reflects the continuous pursuit of excellence in education. Her proactive approach in embracing Schoolinks, despite its novelty to her district, signifies a dedication to providing the best possible learning experience for her students. The teacher's experience demonstrates that educators play a vital role in shaping the educational landscape by championing innovation and being open to new opportunities.

A Note From SchooLinks

Leveraging data to support your district's college and career readiness goals is simple. See for yourself with a personalized demo of SchooLinks' modern platform and let us know how we can help you meet your school district's goals.