

# Customer Story

# Key Takeaways

## **The Problem: Needing a New College & Career Readiness Platform**

With disappointing results working with Naviance, Tipp City needed a platform that would allow them the flexibility for tracking student academic plans, graduation requirements, and student seal progression.

## **The Solution: Embedding SchoolLinks into Several Workflows**

Onboarding educators, school counselors, and students required getting everyone involved. Once professional development was provided, staff and students could run with the variety of solutions SchoolLinks offers.

## **The Results: A Successful First-Year Implementation**

Students, staff, and families engaged collaboratively in tracking Ohio graduation requirements with expanding awareness down to the middle schools.



5 Schools



2.3k Students



1yr. with SL



Tipp City, Ohio

# The Problem

## Needing a New College & Career Readiness Platform

In Ohio, all districts are expected to track and report on every student's graduation plan and document how they will meet graduation requirements. Tipp City Exempted Village Schools used Naviance to track academic course plans. When Ohio added new requirements for monitoring and tracking seals in the graduation requirements, Tipp City looked to Naviance to help meet the expectations. Unfortunately, Naviance did not and was unwilling to provide the support needed to track graduation seals per Ohio's expectations effectively. Therefore, Tipp City needed to begin the search for a new college and career readiness platform that would meet the needs of students and state regulations.

Word across the district spread among departments about SchoolLinks as an improvement compared to the

Naviance experience. Several neighboring districts shared their positive experiences of transitioning from Naviance to SchoolLinks. They cited the usefulness of the platform and the resourceful team members that guide the implementation as the reason for SchoolLinks' success. After hearing such positive feedback, Tipp City leaders decided it was time to switch.

SchoolLinks met with district and school leaders to discuss the need for supporting students, helping improve workflows for school staff, and providing reporting on academic plans and seal requirements. After an extensive review of the SchoolLinks solutions, the district was eager for the opportunity to scale its services to reach more students and collect the necessary data required to track Ohio graduation plans.

# The Process

## Embedding SchoolLinks into Several Workflows

Tipp City was prepared to officially implement the modernized college and career readiness platform with their middle and high schools. Early on, teachers identified opportunities for using SchoolLinks to enhance classroom instruction. Career Connection teachers began leveraging the learning units in SchoolLinks. Additionally, the technology teachers began embedding the SchoolLinks lessons into the personal finance course.

For school counselors, the college application process was made easier with the SchoolLinks Common App integration. School counselors praised the inplatform instructions that gave students a step-by-step guide for completing the Common Application and linking to SchoolLinks. Counselors noted that SchoolLinks saved them time from having to provide technical support and training for educating students and parents on this critical aspect of the college application process.

A significant reason for choosing SchoolLinks was for its Course Planner to help meet the state

requirements of every student having a four-year academic plan and track all student seals for graduation requirements. Tipp City discussed their appreciation for the SchoolLinks team for working closely to ensure that the product was flexible to meet the needs of their students and creating a course planning tool that could easily manage to track all student seals. The Tipp City staff praised the SchoolLinks engineers and product team for its ability to adapt based on their feedback and for the SchoolLinks customer success team for supporting a seamless implementation. Dawn Scott, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, noted, “If you meet with the SchoolLinks team to build whatever template or export, the engineering team and customer success work with you to build that. What I really like is the flexibility and fluidity of the process. Where SchoolLinks is constantly adapting to what Ohio schools need and schools in other states, depending on their laws and graduation requirements.” They were also excited to align the SchoolLinks course planning roll-out to parents so that they may be a part of the academic planning process and support student college and career readiness.

# The Result

## A Successful First-Year Implementation

Having just implemented SchoolLinks in the 2022-2023 school year, it is impressive to see the growth and engagement of the community supporting students’ college and career readiness. Tipp City has reported that students can easily access their scope and sequence of activities to maintain progress toward meeting their graduation plan. They were thrilled to utilize the reporting tools within SchoolLinks to monitor student academic plans and celebrate the students earning their seals. When looking back at a successful first year of implementation, Tipp City highlighted the

flexibility of the process. That SchoolLinks was constantly adapting to meet the needs of Ohio students as well as the unique needs of their district.

Tipp City is excited to leverage the senior exit survey this year and begin tracking alum data for their postsecondary outcomes. Additionally, they plan to engage with middle school parents to get them onboarded and have conversations with their students on the importance of college and career readiness and academic success.

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Dawn Scott  
Director of Curriculum & Instruction

# Summary

Looking toward the future, Tipp City Schools is eager to expand their SchoolLinks implementation to fully implement all the solutions with students and families. They are excited for the potential of expanding services to students and improving the workflows to support staff in their caseloads. With a focus on ensuring students are meeting the Ohio graduation plan standards, Tipp City is confident in the collaboration with SchoolLinks to move forward with year two of their implementation.

## A Note from SchoolLinks

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