Richland County Schools: Empowering Student Futures with SchooLinks





Summary

"SchooLinks ensures no student gets left behind. It's engaging, accessible, and the time we save lets us focus on what really matters —our students' futures."

- Shontelle Meyers, Freshman Counselor at Blythewood High School

By adopting SchooLinks, Richland County School District has revolutionized its approach to College and Career Readiness (CCR), empowering students to take control of their academic and career journeys. What used to take hours of manual effort is now streamlined, giving counselors the bandwidth to focus on personalized student support. As Shontelle Meyers shares:

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Save Time with SchooLinks

Richland County Schools, based in Blythewood, South Carolina, serves over 28,000 students across 32 schools. Known for its dedication to equity and student success, the district adopted SchooLinks to simplify state CCR requirements and foster student engagement in academic and career planning.

District Overview

Richland County Schools is a diverse district serving urban, suburban, and rural communities. At Blythewood High School, where nearly 600 students enter as freshmen each year, Shontelle Meyers describes how SchooLinks supports their journey:

"Our goal is to ensure every student has a plan and feels confident in their path forward."

Challenges Before SchooLinks

Before adopting SchooLinks, Richland County counselors faced inefficiencies in managing CCR programs. Tracking student progress toward graduation and postsecondary readiness required significant time and effort.

"We relied on manual processes, which were time-consuming and prone to errors," Meyers recalls.

This approach left little time for direct student support, particularly at schools like Blythewood High School, where caseloads are substantial.

Why SchooLinks?

Richland County chose SchooLinks for its student-first design, real-time data insights, and seamless integration with existing systems. Interactive tools like career assessments and goal setting engage students, empowering them to take ownership of their futures.

"SchooLinks ensures we can meet every student where they are," says Meyers.

The Results

SchooLinks has transformed Richland County Schools by streamlining processes and reducing administrative burdens. Students are more engaged, actively exploring their career paths, and parents stay informed through collaborative tools. "It's exciting to see students so enthusiastic about their futures," Meyers adds.

Reactions & Advice

First Impressions

Concerns about losing historical data were quickly alleviated.

"Parents were initially worried, but the transition was seamless. Students love how interactive and intuitive the platform is," Meyers explains.

Advice for Other Districts

Meyers encourages districts to embrace the benefits of SchooLinks:

"The investment is worth it. It saves us countless hours and helps us deliver better outcomes for our students. Plus, their support team is always ready to help."



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