

How Linton–Stockton School Corporation

Are Meeting Mandates and Improving Student Outcomes

Linton–Stockton was diligent about choosing the right college and career readiness platform to meet all their needs.



Linton
Indiana



1.3k
Students



3
Schools



1
Year with SchoolLinks

The Problem: Planning Ahead for New Mandates

With new legislation approaching, Linton-Stockton knew that a new college and career readiness platform would be necessary for meeting mandates and improving student graduate profiles.

The Solution: Intentional Professional Development

Implementing SchoolLinks meant including teachers and adding the solutions into the curriculum for all grade levels. Ensuring that educators were aware of the many solutions SchoolLinks provides.

The Results: Meaningful Engagement

Students are engaged in using SchoolLinks in the classroom and using its resources independently to explore future opportunities.

The Problem

Planning Ahead for New Legislation

Linton-Stockton School Corporation is a public K-12 school in Greene County, Indiana. With roughly 1,400 students, this small school system is home to three schools supporting elementary, middle, and high school students. LSSC is located in a small town and often pulls kids from surrounding districts because they have more resources to provide. For the counselors, being prepared and planning ahead helps ensure students receive the best services possible. Equipped with the knowledge that the new Indiana legislation will require school counselors to play a more active role in students' career readiness, LSSC was ready to find a platform that would help students plan for their future while meeting state expectations.

LSSC was looking for a college and career readiness platform that would combine resources to support career exploration and provide a place to track students' graduate profile progress. The counseling team found that the scholarship tracking tools and the college application manager were of particular support for their initiatives. Prior to exploring SchoolLinks, the LSSC staff weren't aware that the platform could be used for elementary check-ins and monitoring how students are feeling. They were excited to share the resource with elementary teachers and see how the data could be used to improve providing direct services to students.

As the school counseling team was getting to learn about the many solutions SchoolLinks has to offer, the LSSC superintendent was excited to hear about the potential of adding the college and career readiness platform to support students. To the entire LSSC leadership team and school counseling team, "SchoolLinks fit right in." After evaluating their options, LSSC decided to implement SchoolLinks for SY22/23.

The Process

Continuous Professional Development

LSSC decided that the implementation of SchoolLinks would start with informing teachers across the elementary, middle, and high schools about the solutions that would best support classroom instruction. The district utilized “professional development Fridays,” a time in which all educators are able to learn new skills and share resources. The school counseling team used two Fridays concurrently to train teachers on the platform and is discussing ways in which they could improve processes for college and career readiness exploration and tracking student graduate profiles.

After attending training, teachers across all grade levels were excited and grateful for the content available on the platform. Teachers were receptive to the implementation process LSSC used and immediately began using SchoolLinks in the classroom. Excited to use resources like the Game of Life and the learning modules to help guide their curriculum. To maintain the momentum of implementation, the school counseling team decided to send email reminders to teachers highlighting different solutions and resources that could enhance the classroom experience.

While exploring different opportunities for student engagement with SchoolLinks, counselors and teachers decided to use the SchoolLinks platform as part of their curriculum and encourage substitute teachers to have students using its planning tools. It was also determined that a 25-minute homeroom period, known for its career center knowledge sharing, would be an excellent avenue for students to gain awareness of postsecondary options.

The Result

Students Self-Motivated to Plan for their Future

As soon as students began using the platform, they noted its fun and engaging resources. The school counseling team noted that the Game of Life has been one of the student's favorite activities, generating great conversations and questions with teachers. It has been a huge positive for LSSC to see the excitement and interest to grow using SchooLinks.

They were also surprised when they began noticing students using their downtime during the school day to log into the platform and explore on their own independently. The school counselors have been extremely satisfied with the college exploration tools and the amount of information within the college profiles, noting that it is an excellent resource for their 21st Century college course, which requires students to explore college campuses either in person or virtually. With SchooLinks, the college virtual tour provides equity so that all students can experience the college campus without the need to worry about transportation or logistics.

For the school counselors and administrators, the increased access to students' college and career readiness data has been very helpful. From college application data with seniors to the elementary students' check-in, data has been able to help ensure each student's needs are being met. Teachers are also benefiting from the real-time reporting capabilities to provide immediate feedback to students as they complete activities in SchooLinks.

Summary

Looking toward the future, LSSC knows that they will continue to expand their SchoolLinks implementation the longer they use the tool. The school counseling team is planning on adding guardians to the platform so that families can be involved in their student's college and career readiness process. For districts that are starting their implementation, LSSC advises setting up which classes would provide teachers with opportunities to engage with SchoolLinks. They also recommend establishing a multi-year implementation plan to ensure each of the solutions within SchoolLinks are appropriately used with teachers and students equitably.

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.

Watch the video on this
case study



Request a demo of
SchoolLinks

