



Louisiana School District Provides Integrated Solution for Student Assessment and Remediation

netTrekker Seamlessly Integrates with Scantron® Achievement Series™ Allowing Teachers to Immediately Connect to Resources for Re-Teaching Based on Assessment Data.

Post Hurricane Katrina, St. Mary Parish Schools in Centerville, Louisiana, received monies to aid teachers in gathering resources to teach the Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum. The critical need was to find assessment and remediation resources that aligned with the state's grade level expectations.

Focusing On the Endgame - Achievement

St. Mary Parish created six-week, parish wide assessments in the four core areas for re-teaching. However, the district was setting goals based on the previous year's standardized tests. This year, the district wanted to be proactive and find resources that utilized new methods to assess and re-teach weak skills long before standardized testing occurred, thus

focusing on the endgame – improving student achievement.

The district recently invested in Scantron's Achievement Series, a web-based assessment solution that helps educators develop and administer tests, capture results, and produce standards-based reports. Although the district paid teachers to create tests and program managers to edit them, Achievement Series was needed for grading and reporting. This worked well; however, teachers were expected to "re-teach" on the items from the test that students did not master.

According to Lisa Thibodeaux, St. Mary Parish K-12 program manager, English K-12, "Teachers only had access to resources from the original teaching of the skills. If students did not master the skill based on the teacher's current repertoire, it was unlikely that teaching it again the same way would yield better results. We knew we needed to provide additional materials for re-teaching."



“If students didn't master a skill the first time, teaching it again the same way won't yield better results. netTrekker gave us additional materials for re-teaching!”

— Lisa Thibodeaux, St. Mary Parish K-12 Program Manager, English K-12

Another challenge was finding standards-based educational content aligned to students' needs and tied to specific and measurable objectives. In addition, it was important for teachers to be able to find that content easily and quickly. Using regular search engines to find remediation resources often meant sifting through thousands of irrelevant and inappropriate websites.



Re-Teaching Based on Assessment Data

A Scantron representative told Thibodeaux about netTrekker, a safe K-12 educational search engine that delivers rich digital content and seamlessly integrates with Achievement Series, which allows teachers to immediately connect to resources for re-teaching based on assessment data. By clicking on the netTrekker icon in Achievement Series, the teacher goes from the identified area of deficiency to supporting standards-aligned resources in netTrekker, which facilitates differentiated instruction within a class and among various classes based on actual test results.

"Districts nationwide provide recommended resources but they find it difficult and time consuming to align those resources," said Randy Wilhelm, CEO of Thinkronize, developers of netTrekker. "That's where netTrekker helps. With over 180,000 digital resources, aligned to each state's academic standards, teachers have a wealth of educational content at their fingertips."

"After our Parish-wide Assessment, I needed to reinforce standard 7.14 (author's intended purpose)," said Jada Aloisio, reading teacher at the Parish's Patterson Junior High School. "Using netTrekker, I found a lesson with three worksheets and another with a quiz to re-teach this standard – it was so easy. For a first year teacher, netTrekker provides resources that normally take years to acquire."

netTrekker and Achievement Series fulfilled St. Mary Parish's crucial need to find an integrated solution for student assessment and remediation. netTrekker fulfilled another need, too.

"Our technology plan encourages the use of instructional technology in class," said Thibodeaux. "netTrekker provides digital content, as opposed to text-based content, which is critical. Our digitally-native students respond well to technology because it's more engaging and when students are engaged, we know they learn!"

