

District reaps measurable rewards with expanded capabilities of aimswebPlus™



Of the 18,000 students in Lee's Summit school district in Kansas City, Missouri, half are in grades kindergarten through sixth grade. All of the district's 18 elementary buildings are screening and monitoring their students' reading and math skills using aimswebPlus, and are seeing huge academic gains as a result.

"Our teachers appreciate the ease of knowing what our students need. Following them throughout the entire intervention process has been immensely helpful," observes district assistant superintendent, Jennifer Kephart, PhD. "We had originally been using aimsweb, but when our district moved to an RTI process, we needed a way to screen, progress monitor, and view student data on one system. aimswebPlus gave us that ability, and more."



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—Jennifer Kephart, PhD, District Assistant Superintendent, Lee's Summit School District

The aimswebPlus decision

While other systems offer some of the same benefits of aimswebPlus, each school district has unique requirements. When making the decision between those other systems and ours, Dr. Kephart noted that the continuity of data and the ease and manner in which it is displayed is what sealed the deal for them. “We were drawn to the ability to retrieve the data we needed, and the visuals that went along with it. Everything we needed to know was right there on the screen, and easy to decipher.”

The transition

As with any transition, getting up and running with aimswebPlus wasn't without its challenges. When it proved to be lengthier than they expected, they called our aimswebPlus team and signed up for on-site training, which made all the difference. Each elementary school in the district has a reading teacher that has been expertly trained to use aimswebPlus, and the students are now reaping the benefits.

The results

While official standardized test results aren't yet available, Dr. Kephart notes that each school has seen remarkable gains in math and reading, further confirming their decision. They are looking forward to another year of comprehensive screening and actionable data—helping them to both tailor instruction to their students' individual needs AND witness their success.

What's next?

While studies show that 1 in 5 students demonstrate symptoms of dyslexia, the teachers and administrators in the Lee's Summit school district understand the importance of early screening, and its impact on academic success. They've added a subscription for 100 Shaywitz DyslexiaScreen™ add-ons for each elementary school, and began screening students during the 2018–2019 school year.

