

How Community High School District 218 Consolidated its Curriculum—Digitally

Chalk Success Story



Community High School District 218

www.chsd218.org

TYPE: PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

LOCATED: OAK LAWN, IL

LEVEL: GRADES 9-12

SCHOOLS: 6

STUDENTS: 5,329

TEACHERS: 500

Products used:



Create living curriculum documents that connect directly to teacher lesson plans.

Community High School District 218 strives to provide its students with the most diverse learning community possible. Providing the opportunity to grow while reflecting on challenging, real-life problems is part of their daily mission. Having teachers dedicated to students' growth is key, and ensuring tools are in place to support these teachers is a top priority. The district engaged Chalk to create a digital warehouse of curriculum maps—all in a consistent and easy-to-use format.

Challenge

Public school districts face the challenge of best serving the needs of students with many different learning styles and helping those students meet state-mandated academic standards. Community High School District 218 knew it had gaps in its curriculum management process. All of the curriculum maps for subjects existed, but as hard copies in bulky binders or soft copies across various digital platforms. This made lesson planning in general laborious, let alone lesson planning tailored to an individual classroom's needs.



Sean McSweeney
Curriculum Director

“History grows by one year each and every year. I don’t get an extra 10 days to teach it, but with digital curriculum mapping, I can see what subjects are being covered in middle school versus high school. This gives me the opportunity to put more emphasis on a topic the students have never been exposed to.”



Solution

The overall goal of CHSD 218 was to provide its teachers with a standardized curriculum map for all subjects that were quick and easy to update or share with educators. It wanted to ensure all of the teachers in each of its schools would have access to the most up-to-date information to share in their classrooms.

“The implementation was exactly what we hoped it would be. Chalk did the heavy lifting in a daunting task of creating a digital curriculum warehouse.”

CHSD 218 implemented Chalk Curriculum to provide the support and collaboration tools teachers need to help the district achieve its education goals. This involved gathering and consolidating all of the varying formats of curriculum maps from across the district. Chalk then digitized these and formatted them using the Understanding by Design framework the district follows.

Results

Every curriculum map CHSD 218 has ever created is now living and breathing in Chalk. What this means is that for the first time the district can ensure complete alignment to state academic standards. With all curriculum in the same location and format, comparison and optimization are more accurate and feasible than ever before.

All department heads throughout CHSD 218 are being trained on Chalk Curriculum to deepen the impact it has on the district. The next steps are to conduct a gap analysis within each curriculum map. The results of this analysis will allow the district to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to implementing any updated state standards and take their students' learning to the next level.

FUTURE GOALS



Increase teacher use of
digital curriculum tools



Implement true interdisciplinary
curriculum alignment



Continue managing living
curriculum documents

“Chalk’s product is what it is...and more! The support from the team is fantastic. I have never gone more than 12 hours when waiting for a response from one of the team members.”

Chalk Curriculum

Make curriculum the connection between teachers.



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