

# Partnering for Success

The School District of Palm Beach County  
and SRG Technology



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## THE CHALLENGE

The School District of Palm Beach County wanted to enhance their existing teacher lesson planning resource tool with a comprehensive, easy-to-use Instructional Content Management System. The district's goal was to migrate its entire learning object repository of approximately 50,000 pieces of digital content — courses, units, lesson plans, and learning object resources — to a modern, robust platform capable of providing teachers and administrators with enhanced functionality for a secure, single point of access to instructional resources.

Additional objectives that needed to be addressed:

- How do you migrate 11,000 teachers from an existing platform that they use every day and depend upon to access mission-critical instructional resources?
- How can a new solution be integrated with an existing mandatory textbook adoption process and new lesson plans generated each year by a variety of publishers?
- How can all the district-level curriculum staff be transitioned to the new application with confidence?
- How do you get the buy-in from the nation's 11th largest school district recognizing the current system has been in place for almost a decade?

Migrations of:



**11,000**  
teachers

&



**50,000**  
pieces of digital content

**To a single point of access to instructional resources**

Recognizing the recent rise and success of charter schools, the district was faced with the challenge of providing them with equal access to instructional resources that were being developed. Although the individual charter schools did not have access to the content the district had licensed from various vendors, they certainly needed to access district created resources such as scope and sequences, standards alignment, and course of studies. Allowing this type of limited access would require extensive configurable permission options by any new technology.

Finally, one of the School District of Palm Beach County's newly adopted strategic plan goals is to usher in an era of personalized learning. Any future system must be able to tag content based on district-defined criteria in order to allow teachers to effectively deliver personalized teaching and facilitate personalized learning.

## THE SOLUTION

In the summer of 2015, SRG Technology (SRGT) efficiently transitioned The School District of Palm Beach County to BlenderLearn™ Instructional Content Management System (ICMS), and efficiently kicked off the next generation of content management for personalized teaching and learning. SRGT was able to integrate all digital content and learning assets into the BlenderLearn application. By delivering training resources, such as videos and instructional guides, to the entire district staff, minimal face-to-face trainings were required. The transition was seamless and the staff felt well prepared for the start of school in August. After the initial launch of the ICMS platform, the initial user feedback to The District was overwhelmingly positive.

BlenderLearn enables the creation and sharing of resources that support classroom instruction and deliver high quality technology-enabled curriculum with integrated content, instructional methods, and high-resolution data seamlessly. This allows the content to be meta-tagged and delivered in any format and on any platform. BlenderLearn also delivers highly configurable dashboards to manage access, distribution, and exchange of the digital curriculum catalog and workspaces to allow collaboration and sharing of best practices among teachers, curriculum staff and administrators.

The solution to provide continued service for content curation, preservation, and data integration included five key objectives:

1. Leverage existing digital teaching and learning resources for continued content curation and preservation
2. Provide teacher licenses to the digital content library in BlenderLearn.
3. Configure BlenderLearn workspaces for teachers to collect, vet, process, and edit content – both individually and collaboratively
4. Allow the extraction of data and content resources for the transfer to other platforms
5. Manage implementation with an experienced and trained team of developers and education consultants.

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch a video from The School District of Palm Beach County about their transition to BlenderLearn.

## CONCLUSION

Less than one month into the 2015-2016 school year, the usage report data from The School District of Palm Beach County provided the tell-tale sign of success.

**On a daily basis:**

  
**8,000**  
different teacher  
logins

  
accessing  
**6,000**  
lesson plans

  
accessing  
**7,000**  
course pages

  
downloading  
**14,000**  
documents

The district curriculum staff continues to create and develop courses, lessons plans, and instructional resources within the BlenderLearn platform.

The original project goals of a seamless transition, delivery of an organized and intuitive design for easy navigation, and ample training resources and support to ensure user confidence had been achieved. To date, the usage report data numbers continue to grow and feedback remains very positive. The process of transitioning to BlenderLearn has helped the district become more effective in their review and utilization of content and moved them forward in their effort to usher in an era of personalized teaching and learning. BlenderLearn allows the district to seamlessly add functionality and additional resources going forward.

## ABOUT THE PARTNERS

### The School District of Palm Beach County

The School District of Palm Beach County is the 5th largest school district in Florida and the 11th largest in the United States. Located in South Florida, the district very diverse with 146 languages being spoken from 191 different countries. It is the top-performing urban school district in the state of Florida. "Education Week" recognized the district as having the 8th highest graduation rate in the nation; and in 2013, 11,500 graduates earned \$110 million in scholarships.

The School District of Palm Beach County is among the nation's top 10 districts that experienced the fastest growing charter school population and has more than 12,000 students enrolled in charter schools.

### SRG Technology, LLC

SRGT's flagship learning solution, BlenderLearn™, is built atop an enterprise architecture designed by former State Department of Education employees who understand the informational needs of public educational systems and have provided IT solutions to some of the largest educational institutions in the country.

SRGT has profound understanding of the various stakeholder audiences in education and the diverse technologies that are available to support stakeholder needs. SRGT's solutions use proven, best-in-class technologies to safely and securely deliver data, information, and knowledge management solutions designed to support education organizations and their unique needs and goals. BlenderLearn is an eco-system of educational applications allowing clients to create solutions that fit current needs and allow for future growth. SRGT has offices in Fort Lauderdale, Atlanta, and Boston.

