



Arkansas City Public Schools' Journey with SmartClass

Client Overview

At Arkansas City Public Schools, the mission is clear: to ensure all students learn and thrive in safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments. The vision embodies an inclusive learning community that empowers students to realize their dreams and explore endless possibilities. With approximately 3,000 students ranging from PreK to 12th grade, they pride themselves on their tradition of excellence in student achievement. As they continuously seek innovative ways to enhance their educational offerings, the integration of the SmartClass English curriculum marks a significant milestone in our commitment to their English Language Learners (ELLs).

The Need for a Comprehensive Solution



The journey toward implementing SmartClass began with a pressing need. In the previous academic year, Ark City's high school served 41 ESOL students, and as the school year progressed, they anticipated that number could rise to between 60 and 75. Many students transfer in throughout the year, making it essential to have a flexible and adaptable curriculum that could cater to their varying levels of language acquisition.

Initial contact with SmartClass was made by Brandy Payne, who recognized the necessity for a robust digital curriculum that could be utilized across both middle and high school grades. After an engaging demonstration, five enthusiastic teachers volunteered to trial SmartClass with their students, eager to explore how this innovative solution could enhance their teaching practices.

Why SmartClass?

In their search for the ideal curriculum, SmartClass stood out as an all-in-one solution tailored specifically for English language instruction. The platform offers a comprehensive suite of resources designed to support newcomers and ELLs effectively. Key features that influenced the decision included:



Placement Testing: SmartClass provides accurate placement tests to assess students' proficiency levels, allowing educators to assign students to the appropriate classes and learning activities.



Extensive Resource Library: With over 3,000 structured English activities, SmartClass allows teachers to filter, select, and even create customized lessons that align with academic language and subject matter.



Support Across Grades: The ability to implement SmartClass for both middle and high school students ensured that teachers could support our entire ELL population consistently and effectively.

Implementation and Initial Success

After purchasing 100 ELL student licenses along with teacher handbooks and training materials, Arkansas City Public Schools rolled out SmartClass across their middle and high schools. Teachers embraced the platform, utilizing its diverse resources to tailor lessons that meet the unique needs of their students.

Notably, Kelly, one of their dedicated teachers, reported that her students completed over 1,000 activities in just a short time, showcasing the immediate impact and engagement the curriculum fostered. As more teachers began to create and assign activities, a collaborative and dynamic learning environment emerged, reinforcing the school's commitment to empowering multilingual learners.



Looking Ahead

The initial success with SmartClass has sparked enthusiasm throughout the district. Teachers now have a reliable tool that not only aids in advancing students' general English proficiency but also focuses on developing their academic language skills. SmartClass is set to become the cornerstone of their educational approach for ELLs and multilingual learners.

"As we look to the future, we are excited about the potential for ongoing collaboration with SmartClass. Our district is committed to further refining our curriculum and expanding our use of this innovative platform to ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive."



Conclusion

Arkansas City Public Schools is proud to recommend SmartClass as an exceptional solution for districts across the United States seeking a flexible, customizable curriculum for their English Language Learners. With SmartClass, they have found a partner that aligns perfectly with their mission to provide an inclusive, supportive, and effective