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Client Reference Oklahoma City Public Schools (OKCPS)

SAP Best Practices

Industry: K-12 School District with over 40,000 students

Business Situation

The Oklahoma City School District's financial information system used an antiquated process described by officials as broken and unable to give them much-needed fiscal data. For example:

- Users could not easily tell whether a bill had been paid
- OKCPS did not have an aging system for invoices
- In past years, the paperwork of issuing purchase orders could take two or three weeks, making it difficult to have textbooks ordered and delivered before the first day of school

ea Solution

ea installed SchoolWise™ for OKCPS, ea's industry solution for the education sector. This includes best practice business processes and a full suite of mySAP.com™ Education Sector solutions including mySAP Financials and mySAP™ Human Resources. As an Application Service Provider (ASP), ea cap hosts Oklahoma's new integrated system. This makes OKCPS the first school district to utilize an ASP to host mySAP Public Sector solutions. ea cap provides hardware, data center services, 24-hour customer care, monitoring and training, all governed by service level guarantees.

This provides OKCPS with a simple and cost-effective alternative to managing their back-office systems in-house.

Results

mySAP Education Sector solutions fully integrated the core business functionalities the District must perform. ea's implementation and hosting services improve the Districts operations by:

- Reduced order processing time by 38%, resulting in processing textbook vendor orders more efficiently ensuring timely delivery
- Improved processing of AP from over 14 days to 3 days
- Reduced employee call volumes 50%, related to payroll questions. Allowing District employees to see greater detail on their paychecks, including accumulated leave balances.
- Achieved 12% discounts on purchasing due to rapid payment terms and better cash management
- Strengthened overall accountability, security and access.
- Checks and balances were built in throughout the SAP integrated system (i.e. Purchase requisitions were not be processed without the offsetting budget)
- Ease in producing reporting through either simple query or through BW
- Empowered the District to manage and control tax processing and federal funding
- Provided world class SAP software to integrate payroll, purchasing and warehouse systems
- Allowed accessibility via a web self-service and reducing paper mailings
- Empowered school officials with more data to make decisions
- Allowed the District to compile a fixed asset inventory list and depreciate it according to new governmental accounting standards

"SAP and ea cap brought us exactly what we needed: an integrated software solution that meets the needs of K-12, delivered through a fully supported, ASP environment, allowing the District to focus on our core function, educating children. In addition, SAP and ea cap were the only vendors with proven SAP K-12 expertise and who could meet our go-live date. Oklahoma City Public Schools is proud to be a paving the path of technology for school districts and other public sector agencies across the United States."

Deborah Sharp, Executive Director for Finance Services Oklahoma City Public Schools