HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RapidIdentity 🏠

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> *Identity Automation's SSO solution helps school districts address a major hurdle brought on by today's technology-driven world: passwords.*
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> Dr. Edward Caglar, CIO
> Harmony Public Schools

Harmony Public Schools (HPS) is the largest charter network in Texas, catering to 35,000 students in 57 public charter schools. With a college acceptance rate of 100 percent, HPS provides a distinct education with a strong emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields.

THE CHALLENGE

As a STEM field pioneer school system, technology fills every aspect of the academic and operational environments at HPS. "Harmony has witnessed a tremendous increase in the use of technology across its environment over the past decade," explains HPS' Chief Information Officer (CIO), Dr. Edward Caglar, adding: "While technology can simplify collaboration and communication, add value to the student experience, and inspire creativity in teaching and learning, these new and increasingly complex technology infrastructures must be current and reliable for optimal use."

Expanding technology usage meant more systems and applications to manage—and a growing number or usernames and passwords for end-users to juggle. Tired of receiving complaints about the increased number of systems and login credentials and knowing more could be done to improve usability, HPS realized they needed a way to streamline login management across systems.

SOLUTION

In order to solve this challenge, HPS needed a single sign-on (SSO) application portal that could integrate on-premise and SaaS offerings into one screen. Furthermore, the IT team needed to implement the new solution, while maintaining its current workload, so the solution had to be up-and-running quickly.

IDENTITY AUTOMATION

After evaluating solutions, Identity Automation's RapidIdentity was chosen as the best fit for HPS' immediate and long-term digital classroom strategy. Caglar cites RapidIdentity's application portal functionality, accelerated implementation schedule, and proven success with K-12 adoption as the most important differentiators in influencing the district's decision.

RESULTS

HPS now uses RapidIdentity to efficiently manage over 39,000 user accounts and provide SSO access to over 40 educational systems, services, and applications. User credentials pass directly into external apps, so students never have to leave the district environment. For example, an integration with the education software service, Clever, gives the school community access to dozens of apps straight from the RapidIdentity portal.

RapidIdentity provides Harmony Public Schools with:

- **Seamless SSO:** One-click access to school systems, Google apps, and Clever partner apps dramatically improves the digital learning experience.

- **Automated Password Management:** Password resets are now done via self-service or delegated to teachers, providing support relief and minimizing wasted class time.

- **Increased Security:** IT staff can identify every user on the network, keeping the district protected in case of hacks and fraud.

Today, Harmony continues to regularly add learning apps, and when the district recently integrated its digital library system into RapidIdentity, HPS saw student adoption of this system double within the first month. "RapidIdentity resolved our problem with too many passwords and too many files scattered about", says Dr. Ismet Sean Isik, Director of Information Systems at HPS. "The one-click, SSO solution gives students, parents, and staff access to everything they need to learn, from anywhere, with just one password."

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