## **opentext**<sup>™</sup>

SUCCESS STORY

### **Industry**

Education

#### **Solution**

OpenText<sup>™</sup> Alloy<sup>™</sup>

#### **Results**



Reduced manual rework with automatic updates



Enhanced data accuracy and governance, ensuring latest information is available



Saved more than half a million dollars in the first phase



Positioned school for growth to triple its student population in 10 years

# Charter school unifies data management

Academic institution boosts accuracy, bolsters base for growth with OpenText Alloy



Charter school unifies data management

With almost 16,000 students in nearly 50 schools, this charter school system faced even more growth as the organization set its sights on a goal of 100 schools and 50,000 students in the next 10 years. Today, the organization receives up to 20,000 applications for 3,000 new admissions awarded each year through a lottery system. Managing application information and transitioning 3,000 records to admitted student records with class assignments each year is challenging, even though multiple platforms are used to manage data for students, faculty and business operations.

As the charter school has grown, several different platforms were adopted to handle data management. This includes solutions from major software vendors to manage key functions, such as HR, payroll and facilities, as well as another homegrown system to manage other aspects of the business. These systems all performed different, necessary tasks to manage the school's operations.

While the technology was beneficial, maintaining up-to-date, accurate data in each of the disparate systems became more difficult as the school system grew. Because data was stored in different systems, accessing applications from non-admitted students when there was an opening to fill or creating class rosters was difficult. Because data was in multiple, siloed systems, changes in one system—an address or name change, for example—did not automatically transfer to all systems, which led to manual input of data. This process was inefficient, error-prone and not supportive of efforts to serve students, teachers and parents effectively.

Phase I of a multi-phased integration strategy focused on the most critical activities that supported onboarding of new students to create seamless communications between student, staff, scheduling and enrollment applications.

The ability of OpenText<sup>™</sup> Alloy<sup>™</sup> to accommodate a broad range of file types ensures that as data is captured from initial application to registration documents to creation of class rosters for teachers, changes are automatically reflected in all systems. This reduces data input errors and improves the quality of information.

Another advantage is the speed at which data is managed throughout the system, ensuring the most up-to-date information is available to teachers and administrators.

Not only did the implementation of Phase I save the school in excess of \$525,000 over three years, but integration was completed within two months—in time for the start of a new school year.

In the first months of the integration process, nearly one-half million transactions were handled by Alloy in a secure, timely manner.

One of the greatest benefits of Alloy is the ability to scale quickly to accommodate growth or new services—essential for a school system planning to more than triple its student population in the next 10 years.

Securing the mission-critical task of onboarding students and creating accurate class rosters, the school system is looking at efforts to inte-grate other technology platforms to provide a holistic view of data and end-to-end integration processes to further improve accuracy and data governance.



OpenText Alloy accommodates growth—essential for a school system planning to more than triple its student population in the next 10 years.



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