

Schools Implement Eagle Software's Aeries SIS

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Wasco Schools

Wasco Schools Technology, which is a consortium effort between Wasco Union Elementary District and Wasco Union High School District, is operated in a "virtual K-12" format for all technology needs. This cooperative effort allows both districts to share technology infrastructure, and staff, lowering the overall cost of technology for each district.

Wasco Schools Technology implemented Eagle Software's Aeries Student Information System in the fall of the 1998-1999 school year. Using a DOS based software for 10 years, the move to Aeries was a challenge. After evaluating Aeries and two other software offerings, Aeries was determined to be the best-fit package for our needs.

The criteria used during the evaluation process for a replacement SIS were:

- Windows GUI-based platform
- Ability to maintain both elementary and secondary school formats
- Easily customizable to allow flexibility with changing needs
- Low cost of ownership
- Online support
- Regular upgrades for new features and fixes to bugs in the software

Eagle Software assisted the implementation/conversion by converting all data from the old software to the new, and provided an onsite trainer to get the school office staff up and running. One of the largest hurdles was to get the classroom attendance module up and running at the same time as the front office. Hindsight being clearer than foresight, we should have implemented the new software in the front office during the first half of the year and the classroom attendance during the second half.

Eagle Software has been very responsive to the constant changes to student data requirements.

Eagle Software has been very proactive in complying with the new CSIS standards for uniform student information. Eagle Software has been one of the driving forces behind the structure of the CSIS standard. Aeries is 100 percent compliant with the CSIS requirements.

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Rosedale Union School District

When Rosedale Union School District created its own technology services department four years ago, the first task for the new department was to implement a new student information system throughout the district. At the time, the district had different homegrown databases for each school for the purpose of student records and a second stand-alone commercial Macintosh application for handling daily attendance. In order to select a new system, a committee was formed to evaluate the various options available. After looking at several applications, we chose Aeries for a number of reasons. Some of these reasons included:

- Ease of use
- Number of prepackaged reports

- Ease of creating custom reports
- District integration
- Regular updates accommodating changing needs
- Availability of source code
- Training resources
- Experience of development staff in creating/maintaining SIS systems in California

The transition to Aeries software was very successful thanks to the skill and resources provided by Eagle Software.

Recently RUSD joined the Aeries Software CSIS Consortium. Eagle has been very responsive in developing the additions to the software required for CSIS compliance. Eagle Software has continued to provide high levels of support and training assisting with the CSIS process at all levels.

The adoption of a district standard for a new SIS was a challenging task to be placed before the new technology department. Thanks to the quality of the product and support provided by Eagle software this very successful implementation assisted in starting things off on the right foot. ■