

CASE STUDY

Destiny® Textbook Manager™

Groton Public Schools

Groton, Connecticut

Schools: 10 • Grade Levels: K-12

Students: 5,000

VISION: To reduce textbook losses, improve tracking and accountability, easily transfer textbooks from the warehouse to the classroom, and ensure that all students within the district have the materials they need to succeed.

SOLUTION: Destiny Textbook Manager, the solution that provides a district-wide view of textbook inventory, was implemented in Groton's 10 schools, giving them an accurate view of what textbooks they possessed and what they needed to purchase. It also allowed the district to easily transfer instructional materials and lower replacement costs. Destiny Textbook Manager makes it easy to ensure that all teachers and students throughout the district are provided with all appropriate curriculum materials.

RESULT: Destiny Textbook Manager supports Groton's ability to control textbook costs and ensure that students have access to the right books at the right time. The district has also been able to increase its efficiency and improve accountability.

“Destiny Textbook Manager has saved us a lot of money and a lot of headaches. We had no idea how much money we were wasting in the past, but now with Destiny, we see savings every day. With just one title, we have saved \$5,000 by not ordering new books.”

— Jennifer DeBell, Inventory Control/Purchasing Agent

Challenge

Groton Public Schools realized they were wasting time and resources by relying on hand counting of their textbook supply. Each fall, staff would gather in a 'building full of books' and attempt to accurately assess what they had and what needed to be ordered for the school year. "We had no insight whatsoever about what we possessed in the district," said Jennifer DeBell, inventory control and purchasing agent for the district. "No one could determine what titles we had in each of the schools or how many copies we owned. We were constantly finding textbooks that were stuffed into nooks and crannies, and we weren't sure if the books we had fit with the current curriculum or if they were no longer needed. Simply finding out what books were in the district and what we needed was the biggest goal at that time for us."



Solution

The district had been using Destiny Library Manager for ten years with good results, which led them to Destiny Textbook Manager. “One of the big reasons we decided to implement Destiny Textbook Manager is the ease of use and the support we’ve received from Follett when we’re doing upgrades and other things with Destiny Library Manager,” said DeBell. “Follett sent a representative to help us determine what we needed and where to start, which helped so much. Then we were able to start barcoding everything and soon all of our textbooks were in the system and accounted for.”

DeBell pointed out that one of Destiny’s most attractive benefits is the Warehouse feature, which helped seal the deal and instill her confidence that with Destiny Textbook Manager in place, the district would save time and money. “The Warehouse feature is the biggest strength for me—it allows me to transfer and track books between schools so easily. It works perfectly.”

Organization and cost savings were also a huge draw for Groton Public Schools in their decision to use Destiny Textbook Manager. As DeBell explained, “We’re so much more organized and more aware, so now we have a leg to stand on when we go to the board and say we need more money for books. With Destiny, we can show them the circulation rates and how many copies we have, how many get lost or damaged. Destiny helps us support our case a bit more.”



“Implementing Destiny Textbook Manager has given us the ability to ensure that every student has a copy of the book that they need to be successful, and use that information to leverage what our needs will be in the future.”

— Jennifer DeBell, Inventory Control/Purchasing Agent

Results

The district has been using Destiny Textbook Manager for two years now, and staff and students alike are enjoying the benefits. “Now we have a better understanding as to what books are being used, which ones were part of the current curriculum, which ones were supplements, and so forth,” said DeBell. “Before Destiny, we were simply over ordering to make sure that we had enough. Now we know there isn’t a surplus of books at one school and not enough at the other. We can make better decisions.” The district is also pleased with the considerable cost savings that comes as a result of accurate ordering of new books. Because of the positive results Groton Public Schools is experiencing with Destiny Library Manager and Textbook Manager, they are now making the move to adding Destiny Asset Manager to help them track special education, science, computers and other equipment.

About Follett’s K-12 Business

Follett is the largest provider of educational materials and technology solutions to PreK-12 libraries, classrooms, learning centers and school districts in the United States, and a major supplier to educational institutions worldwide. Follett distributes books, reference materials, digital resources, ebooks and audiovisual materials, as well as pre-owned textbooks. Follett also is one of the leading providers of integrated educational technology for the management of physical and digital assets, the tracking, storing and analyzing of academic data, and digital learning environment tools for the classroom focusing on student achievement.

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