

Atlas Case Study: Irvington School District

Atlas for Scope and Sequence

Irvington School District, NY

Irvington school district has four schools with 1741 students and over 300 staff. Classes span Kindergarten through 12th grade. With multiple schools, consistency is key to ensure student achievement.



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What was the problem?

Irvington School District wanted to ensure that there was a strong vertical articulation between grades and schools so that students build on their knowledge and skills year to year without repeating information or leaving gaps in instruction. In order to ensure this, Irvington also recognized vertical articulation entails a consistent horizontal scope and sequence whereby children in the same grade but different classes, are encountering and studying the same information.

How did Atlas help?

Transparency of curriculum in unit maps in Atlas takes the guesswork out of curriculum writing. Instead, teachers are informed by others' work and can build on it. Moreover, teachers benefit from seeing each other's curriculum. In using Atlas at Irvington, teachers studied their colleague's curriculum and ensure that there is a consistent horizontal and strong vertical scope and sequence.

The consistent unit planner template across grades, schools, and subjects ensured that teachers all have a uniform framework for curriculum. This bolstered the scope and sequence of student learning and makes it easier for horizontal and vertical collaboration.

The reporting capabilities in Atlas also allowed teachers and administrators to generate reports for scope and sequence. At Irvington, instead of searching for and within someone's curriculum, scope and sequence reports directly compared units and allowed them to study and drill down to specific facets of curriculum.

What were the outcomes?

The thoughtful and intentional curriculum created throughout Irvington's curriculum work ensured that students were studying the same information across classes and are growing with respect to this knowledge each year. Teachers were also on the same page for curriculum writing because of the consistent templates. Overall, this sort of process makes curriculum development more meaningful and learning more beneficial to students.

Testimony

"In addition to just having a place where we're housing our curriculum...the bigger goal [with Atlas] is to say how do we ensure that every second-grade classroom is providing the same level of learning for our students?" - Dr. Raina Kor, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum

