



Othello School District

Using Edcite Schools Data
to Promote Student Growth

June 2019



ABOUT OTHELLO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Location: Othello School District is located in Othello, Washington.

Number of schools: The district has four elementary schools, one middle school, two high schools.

Number of Students: The district serves roughly 4,400 students, and close to half of the student population is designated as ELL (formerly LEP).

MEET THE TEAM

Four educators from Othello School District participated in this case study. Justin Johnson is the Director of Data and Innovations for Othello School District. Sandy Anderson is the Assistant Principal of Wahitis Elementary. Tamar Lumsden is an Instructional Coach for Wahitis Elementary. Hanah Mohs is a 5th grade teacher at Wahitis Elementary.



WHY THEY CHOSE EDCITE SCHOOLS

“It’s helped the teachers by giving them data at their fingertips without them having to come up with ways to collect and analyze it.”

Wahitis Elementary was the first school in the district to use Edcite Schools. The district administrative team saw how successful the implementation was at the elementary and how easy Edcite Schools was for teachers to use. The district also needed a way to assess students’ progress in math district-wide, so Edcite Schools was rolled out across Othello School District.

Sandy Anderson, Assistant Principal of Wahitis Elementary, said, “[Edcite Schools has] an extremely efficient data system, and so that instant data available to teachers was something that was of really high interest to us.”

Justin Johnson, Director of Data and Innovations noted, “It’s helped the teachers by giving them data at their fingertips without them having to come up with ways to collect and analyze it. It’s common across the district, and so it’s a platform that we can all help each other with. We’re not all trying to do different things.”



“Edcite Schools really allows us to make our data actionable.”

Instructional Coach Tamar Lumsden said, “I think the most important piece that [Edcite Schools] has changed is the amount of time that it takes to move from an assessment into action.”

Johnson explained, “Teachers can be more clear with what they’re doing in the classroom, so that’s helped the students.”

Across Othello School District, students take an assessment on Edcite Schools every other Friday in grades 3-8. 5th grade teacher Hannah Mohs said, “We do entry test quizzes for math every other Friday, and then the opposite weeks, we have a reading comprehension test.” Once students submit their assessments, Mohs immediately prints their results. Some students work on an independent activity while Mohs works with small groups on specific standards. She said, “Probably the biggest benefit is how quickly you get your data back.”

Anderson noted, “The teachers know exactly where [students] are at. They know exactly how to change instruction to meet the needs of the kids.”

“Edcite Schools really allows us to make our data actionable,” Lumsden emphasized.



STUDENTS COMFORTABLE WITH STATE TESTING FORMAT

Johnson said that after the first year of using Edcite Schools, students felt comfortable with the SBAC state testing format. “A lot of students said, ‘That’s just what we do everyday.’ They had that mindset that it was nothing new.”

Anderson remarked, “It’s not a guessing game once they get to that assessment.”

Mohs agreed with Anderson. “I feel like they are so much more comfortable taking tests. It’s not as stressful because the format, like my assistant principal mentioned, is almost identical, so the kids know how to toggle between the right and left, they know how to do hot text, they know how to do multiple choice...they’re just proving what they know versus being stressed out about this big test.”

Johnson revealed, “Wahitis in particular outperformed the state last year, and they more than doubled the state average for ELL kids passing the math assessment. The state was at 19%, and they were at 44%. They were teaching the math at a high level, and the kids were really comfortable with how they were going to show it on the test.”

Wahitis is also a 3 time School of Distinction (top 5% of all schools in the state of Washington for student growth) and a State Recognized School for significantly closing achievement gaps.

Wahitis is also a 3 time School of Distinction (top 5% of all schools in the state of Washington for student growth) and a State Recognized School for significantly closing achievement gaps.

LEARN MORE ABOUT EDCITE SCHOOLS

To learn more about how Edcite Schools can help your district give students practice aligned to your state assessment, email us at schools@edcite.com or visit www.edcite.com/EdciteSchools.