

# **Case Study**

# Supporting teachers with engaging instructional tools to reduce the learning gaps among students

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows School District in Clarion, lowa works closely with teachers and administrative staff to develop instructional content and resources that support positive learning outcomes. Consistently evaluating how to implement new processes and technologies that improve student engagement, the district partnered with Boardworks Education to take advantage of its extensive K-12 library of supplemental, interactive lessons.

As a result, Clarion-Goldfield-Dows reduced the burden on their teachers to find and implement new interactive content, whilst also leveling the playing field in effectively utilizing new classroom technology to enhance instruction and improve student engagement across grade levels.

Instructional Coach Lori Swanson, who has an extensive background in Special Education, worked with Boardworks to address these challenges.

"Instead of teachers searching for content on their own time, we are now able to provide standards-supported lessons in a flexible format that address identified learning gaps for special education and all grade levels in the general curriculum."

### THE CHALLENGE

In response to instructional disruption of the pandemic, CGD School District needed a supplemental content provider that could help empower teachers to address the need for engaging standardized lessons that help alleviate the growing risk of learning gaps among their students during remote and hybrid learning.

Facing the same pressing challenges seen across the US educational landscape, Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District proactively evaluated how to implement supplemental resources that would provide consistency to teacher instruction across K-12.

They wanted to help reduce the heavy burden of lesson prep stress on teachers and provide engaging content to support every instructional modality across K12 environments.



[Teachers] are constantly creating, pulling, and/or searching for engaging content to address specific standards and learning gaps. We desired more interaction and higher engagement for novelty and to give a level playing field for consistent instruction while efficiently utilizing technology





Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District

## **SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE**

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District serves 1,008 students across three rural public schools in northern lowa and has one of the highest concentrations of top-ranked schools in the state with a graduation rate in the top 5%.

#### **SCHOOL DISTRICT STATS**

- · 3 schools
- 1,008 students
- 65 certified teachers
- · 16:1 Student-teacher ratio

# STUDENT STATS

- · 40% minority students
- 56.4% economically disadvantaged students
- 13.8% English language

### THE SOLUTION

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District purchased the full suite of Boardworks for all K12 content in Math, Science, English Language, and History to support core subject areas for every grade level.

Boardworks leveled the playing field for their teachers, providing interactive slideshows that can be adjusted as needed for individual and group differentiation. This helped address learning gaps based on specific standards that may have arisen during the pandemic and have been identified by the district as an area of focus.

Interactive slide decks are easy to use and flexible, so teachers can use them in a variety of ways. Boardworks seamlessly pairs with and enriches existing lesson plans and curriculum with highly interactive and engaging content. The ability to share live lesson and student led presentation codes for specific standard aligned content has allowed seamless synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning.

Boardworks has helped Ms. Swanson get teachers up to speed quickly with meaningful integration of tech into their instruction, no matter their prior technology confidence and experience. Teachers are subsequently able to use Boardworks content in the way that best fits their lesson plans and student needs. They can pull a full lesson, individual slides, or a mixture of slides from across our K-12 library, which ultimately enhances instruction and saves time for all teachers.

"We use Boardworks in every teaching modality. We use it live with teacher-led groups, some have pushed to Google Classroom for extra help for individual students, and some plan to record flipped lessons as the need arises."

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

A member of the Boardworks team provided hands-on virtual training, giving a presentation on how the supplemental tools worked and answering key questions that the District had. Ms. Swanson then worked directly with teachers to help with technology integration, best practice implementation, and supporting usage with the existing technology tools being used in the district.

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Middle and High School teachers were able to quickly begin using Boardworks and now benefit in a variety of ways such as saving lesson prep time, enriching existing lesson plans with interactive content and differentiating instruction that is tailored to student needs.

"Students at the high school level like the interaction instead of just worksheets. Students were taking screenshots of the interactive, formative assessment slides for immediate feedback and higher engagement."

#### **RESULTS**

By partnering with Boardworks Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District put themselves in a strong position to best support their teachers with supplemental, interactive content that enriched instruction and reduced learning loss during remote learning, but also for the future when their schools reopened. They ensured that all teachers were consistently integrating technology in a meaningful way to engage students with interactive content that improved learning outcomes.

In the future, Clarion-Goldfield-Dows plans to further implement Boardworks to supplement teacher instruction in special education settings, providing engaging content to support IEP's. The system is being leveraged for online learning lessons, inclass supplements, and short preparatory lessons for upcoming skills. Administrators are also using Boardworks as a tool to support plans for creating a more interactive learning environment, interactive resources used for RTI, and pre-planning for eLearning days.



#### **ABOUT BOARDWORKS**

Boardworks provides interactive teaching & learning resources that empower teachers to optimize existing classroom technology.

Boardworks products are created by and for teachers and are aligned to state standards. Each product contains hundreds of sequential, editable lessons filled with interactive animations, games, and activities.

#### **CONTACT US**

Schedule a demonstration to learn how Boardworks resources can benefit your teachers and students.

Reach one of our education consultants by phone at 855-405- 7939 or by email at inquiries@ boardworkseducation.com