

District Case Study

WHY SERVICE

School districts across the country require or encourage their students to participate in community service in high school. Many make it a graduation requirement while others offer special chords and honors for those students that do complete community service. Community service in schools is becoming a priority because of the profound impact it has on students especially during their formative years.

Community Service:

- Allows the student to widen their world view
- Positively impacts college acceptance
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- Helps students become well-rounded individuals
- Opens their eyes to passions they might not have otherwise discovered

The way service hours and experiences are tracked and managed at a district level make a difference for both district leaders and students. Districts need to be able to report on their students' service efforts to see progress, growth, and development. These data points are used in various efforts at the district level including state reporting, funding, and more.

With a proper system in place to track and manage service, students are also able to see how much they've served and the impact they've had while also reflecting on their service experience. Reflecting on each service experience ensures that students are getting the most possible out of their service. For so many students, the service they take part in during their school years, helps inform future college decisions, careers, and passions, which is why school boards are continuing to encourage student service.

PRIORITIZING SERVICE AND SERVICE TRACKING

School districts across the country track and manage service in many different ways – some more efficient than others. However, many school districts use x2VOL to track and manage student service hours. By tracking and managing student service online with x2VOL, district leaders are able to have a full view of student progress. This insight influences graduation, development and the future success of their students. With such a system, students and school admins are able to have a better grasp on their service as well.

Bellevue School District, PUC Schools, and Wicomico County Public Schools all utilize x2VOL to track, manage, and report on student service. While the requirements and service goals for these districts differ, x2VOL gives them the ability to customize their goals and district set up to align with their district service requirements and needs.



Bellevue School District

The students of the Bellevue School District have a 40-hour graduation requirement, and by consistently participating in service, district leaders aim for their students to grow through service: "Service helps students see themselves as a part of a larger community. They develop skills for networking and contribute to the community in a positive way. It helps them become more well-rounded individuals," said Deborah Kraft, Director of K-12 Counseling, at Bellevue School District in Washington. "We want them to be prepared to thrive in any world. Be prepared to do whatever it is they want to: service takes them out of themselves. Helps them grow beyond themselves."





PUC Schools

PUC Schools stands for Partnerships to Uplift Communities – a school system dedicated to service. "One of our three pillars is to students will commit to uplift our communities now and forever. So, service plays a huge roll in engaging our students in their communities," said Nicole Murphy, Director, College Access & Financial Aid. PUC high school students are required to complete a minimum of 10 hours of service per school year, 9th-12th and must have a minimum of 30 hours by high school graduation. Murphy has the goal of being able to see not only how many hours students are serving, but how they are growing and developing through service.





Wicomico County Public Schools

Wicomico County Public Schools differs in that their service requirement comes directly from the state. While the state of Maryland requires their students to have 75 student service learning hours in order to graduate, the leaders of Wicomico School District use this as an opportunity to engage their students in growth, development, and learning: "As a district we strive to create citizens invested in our community and service learning encourages and strengthens those relationships," said Lori Batts, Supervisor of Counseling, Wicomico County Public Schools.



RESULTS OF AN EFFICIENT SERVICE TRACKING PLATFORM

All three school districts have seen a shift in the way they manage student service. From having a better grasp on how their students are developing to being able to report on student success through service, an online process has opened up doors to more data and insight. PUC Schools have seen x2VOL relieve school level admins of a paper process that created a barrier to see the impact students had on their communities and student development.

"x2VOL reduces paperwork, provides one online location to track and report students' service hours both quantitative (hours completed and types of non-profits) and qualitative (students' reflections), and provides a list of local service opportunities for students to register for online." – Nicole Murphy, Director, College Access & Financial Aid, PUC Schools.

Before migrating their service program to x2VOL, student service hours in the Bellevue School District were managed by PTA volunteers through spreadsheets and notebooks – a manual process that involved thousands of papers and endless spreadsheets. Reporting on student service was a challenging process that didn't yield the results district leaders wanted or needed.

"Certainly x2VOL is far superior to anything we were doing before." – Tom Duenwald, Director of Educational Technology, Bellevue School District

Not only can district leaders have access to insight and data, but can generate reports on student service at any time:

"x2VOL makes it very easy to get the required information for state reports." – Lori Batts, Supervisor of Counseling, Wicomico County Public Schools

"Before x2VOL we did not have a good grasp on the total district number of Student Service Learning hours our students worked on personal projects in the school year and now we do. In addition, all the SSL hours are electronically verified and reviewed so we are assured of the authenticity of the time that was spent in services," said Lori Batts.

With x2VOL, districts are able to customize their x2VOL set up to meet their service requirements. Leaders have access to the qualitative and quantitative results of student service and students themselves are able to see their direct impact on their community and use their service experience to positively impact their future.







Students at PUC Schools serve as a part of their Sages and Seekers community service opportunity. Students are paired with a senior citizen and will be studied on how they develop socially and emotionally.

x2VOL District Benefits

- Advanced Reporting and easy access to data for state reports
- Reduction in paperwork
- Easy access to service opportunities
- Verification and Approval of hours
- Visibility into qualitative and quantitative student service data
- Customizable set up and dedicated district account manager
- Supports student and staff mobility within the district

CONTACT US

We would love to learn more about your district and share how x2VOL can support you and your students. Contact us today!



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