

Bridges Public Charter School:

A Case Study of how a DC Charter elementary school increased collaboration & improved communication in remote, hybrid and in-person settings to elevate individualized practices.

**School:**

Bridges Public
Charter School

Location:

Washington DC

School Type:

Public Charter

Grades:

Pre-K to 5th Grade

Students:

443

LMS:

PowerSchool

IEP System:

SEDs (EasyIEP)

Overview

The Special Ed admin team at Bridges PCS, implemented Education Modified in July 2020 to streamline the access of Special Ed student information, improve goal progress monitoring, and increase collaboration and communication amongst teachers to further support a remote, hybrid, or in person classroom setting. Today, Bridges uses Education Modified to support all populations— IEP, 504 and General Ed students.

"Before using Education Modified, we used to share student information with teachers through physical paper copies and relied heavily on Google Docs & Google Sheets. We had a lot of challenges with maintaining data living in different documents, tracking who had access to what. It was difficult to maintain reliable records and proof of what we did. "

-Natalie Ballard, Assistant Director of Student Support

Use Cases

Special Ed Admins, ELL Coordinators, Special Ed & Curriculum Coordinators, Special Ed Teachers, ELL Teachers, General Ed Teachers, and Counselors, are all using EdMod as a collaboration hub to support their entire student population.

Challenges

When the COVID-19 pandemic began, Bridges was faced with many new challenges on how to best support their staff and students through the new remote learning environment. With reduced times to meet with students in a virtual setting, they knew that they were going to have to be as efficient as possible with the way teachers accessed and logged student information to both better support their students and be compliant with what the students' plans require.



Accessing & tracking Information for Special Ed Plans

It was difficult for teachers to keep track of who had what plan (504 or IEP) and what their learning needs, accommodations, and goals were.



Data Maintenance & Management

It was difficult to maintain and manage student data when teachers were often recording information on incorrect Google Docs or Spreadsheets or providing physical documents on student information.



Goal Progress Monitoring

No consistent way to track student progress (Google Docs, Google Sheets, handwritten documents) made it challenging to provide complete students' progress.



Difficulty storing and sharing information

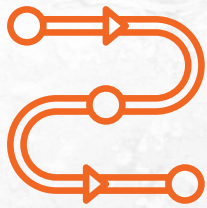
Previously, relied heavily on Google Docs and Sheets to house and track student information. Teachers often struggled to find the right document to fill out and admins often struggled to manage permissions to control which staff member could access what.

"When there is a paradigm shift in what we're asking teachers to do, I now know everyone is on the same page. Everyone is going to Education Modified and using the right links and resources to access student information."

-Natalie Ballard, Assistant Director of Student Support

Solution

Bridges PCS partnered with Education Modified to securely streamline the access and tracking of Special Ed student information and provide all teachers with a hub to collaborate and communicate. Today Bridges PCS uses Education Modified to house IEP and 504 information, General Ed information, track student behaviors, and house all documents, so that teachers know they are accessing the correct information and can support all students with fidelity.



Streamlined Access to Student's Plan Information

After Education Modified was implemented, all staff members were able to filter students by their plan type, learning disability, or accommodation type. Teachers were also able to access any Google Suite documents related to their student through their student's Document section-- no longer having to search for the right document in Google drive.



Improved Data Tracking

Teachers now use the Goals feature to progress monitor. By being able to attach data collection tools and assessments to every measured goal, admins can now share comprehensive progress reports with parents, advocates, or lawyers (if requested). Admins are also able to manage and house all of their students' documents through the Documents section in the specific student's Learning Bio, which ensures that teachers are always accessing the correct documentation for their students. Bridges will also begin using the Team Board to log behavior incidents so that appropriate staff members are notified in real time and these logs are always associated to the student.



Increased Collaboration & Professional Development

Teachers are now able to access job embedded professional development that is specific to their students' learning needs. The admin team is also using Education Modified as a knowledge base to house all school documents, trainings and resources for teachers to easily access.

With the support of the Institute for Education Sciences at the US Department of Education, Education Modified conducts research and development to innovate the IEP process and improve instruction for students with disabilities.

