

Desire2Learn Client Success Story

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION:

ADVANCED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WITH DESIRE2LEARN LEARNING REPOSITORY

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) is the largest school board in Western Canada with over 200 schools and 10,000 employees serving approximately 100,000 students in K–12. This includes CBe-learn, the CBE's online high school which delivers full online programming for senior and junior high students as well as multiple levels of support for homeschooling students.

The Issues

2006 was a turning point in the organization's learning resource management strategy. CBE took a hard look at how they were managing their digital learning resources and decided a more effective solution was required. With access to a collection of licensed streaming educational videos, they were looking for a better way to catalog and reference this material.

A more efficient way to manage their growing inventory of digital learning objects such as html pages, images and storage for standards was also required.



Calgary Board of Education

Cleaning-up, re-organizing and assigning Meta data to these resources for easy retrieval was a top priority. Key requirements for the new solution included the ability to browse resources by functionality with centralized retrieval between all their schools.

The new solution also had to handle the import/export of IMS compliant Distributed Learning Packages made available by the provincial government, which are fully aligned with curriculum standards. The ability to manage curriculum, quality, accessibility, and copyright standards was key.

The Solution

CBE implemented Desire2Learn® Learning Repository, an easy-to-use standards-based learning object repository enabling the storing, sharing and tracking of learning objects, which seamlessly integrates with the Desire2Learn Learning Environment.

The Learning Repository was established with two separate repositories:

Repository #1. CBE Resource Gallery

- Contains licensed and CBE-owned digital assets
- Accessible to students and teachers
- Great for students to access resources outside the classroom

Repository #2. CBE Professional Resources Gallery

- Set-up with Approved and In-Review taxon paths for resource classification. Includes full lessons (learning objects) and assets. Approved resources are curriculum compliant, fully vetted and meet all necessary standards. In-Review resources need to be checked for copyright/legal issues, student security/privacy, and include teacher guides
- Accessible only to staff

The Outcome

The Learning Repository enables teachers and staff at CBE to re-use published learning objects, saving time and significant costs associated with course content development. The tight integration with the Desire2Learn Learning Environment enables resources to be pulled in from the Learning Repository in a number of different ways.

The staff understand that not all students learn the same way. Staff can now edit resources on the fly to meet individual student needs because the Learning Repository allows for the personalization of teaching and learning resources. For example, from the Content tool in the Learning Environment, staff can easily edit and store a second version of a module to suit specific needs (e.g., ESL version of Macbeth). This level of control and flexibility are invaluable and strongly support CBE's commitment to student success and learning.

Content can now be easily shared and repurposed. Resources from CBe-learn can be pulled out to the Learning Repository and used at the various high schools across the entire district.

Without the visionary leadership at CBE, the level of success that has been realized within their learning resource management strategy wouldn't have been attainable. Having the proper plan, people and funding in place is critical.

The vision for the future is to expand resource management even further as well as nurture a culture of sharing among the staff. CBE is infusing learning technologies in the daily school experience. Personalized learning and organizational efficiencies are being achieved while new understandings of the value of technology are making improvements in instructional practice and educational leadership.

CONTACT US

About Us

Desire2Learn includes Desire2Learn Incorporated and its subsidiaries.

Desire2Learn is a global provider of enterprise eLearning solutions enabling leading institutions and organizations to create teaching and learning environments that support them in realizing their vision.

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