

## Case Study

# Edmodo and Microsoft partner for success



### AT A GLANCE



**47** schools



**1,300** teachers



**18,000** students



**Chula Vista, California, USA**

How can California's largest K-6 district train all of its students to be next-generation professionals? It's a challenge that might be daunting for many districts, but not for Chula Vista Elementary School District.

With 28,000 students and 1,500 teachers across 47 schools, the district has made huge strides towards its goal by offering access to Microsoft Office 365 on the Edmodo platform to its students, teachers and staff.

### The Edmodo platform proves immensely popular

Edmodo, the world's largest global education network, provides a secure platform in which students and teachers can connect, collaborate and share resources. Teachers can create small groups for students to work together in school and afterschool, post assignments to student groups, create quizzes and polls, and curate content specifically for their class, available online 24/7.

The usage numbers of Edmodo in its five years of use at CVESD attest to its popularity. More than 18,000 students and 1,300 teachers now have Edmodo accounts.

The platform's popularity at the district led to a proliferation of accounts – ones that were separate from their Office 365 profiles. This gave administrators little control over what credentials students were using to create Edmodo profiles and limited ability to help with forgotten passwords.

### With Single Sign-On learning is just one click away

Edmodo teamed with Microsoft to build a solution that enables students to log into Edmodo directly through their Office 365 accounts with a single password. Teachers and students can open, create, and edit Word, Excel and PowerPoint files and access additional tools, including Sway, OneNote and Mix by simply clicking the Office icon in their apps launcher.

Conveniently, students can also link their OneDrive to their Edmodo Library. The result: All of their files and folders in one place, readily available to attach to assignments and notes.

And while teacher collaboration is central to improving instruction at CVESD, the district faced the challenge of delivering personalized professional development to teachers and facilitating communication and collaboration.

Learning apps like Edmodo can access the rosters through free, public APIs, and enhance their experiences for teachers and students.

Tim Richardson  
Senior Program Manager for School Data Sync



Edmodo enables CVESD to facilitate deep school-level and district-level teacher onboarding and training through Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and Professional Learning Networks (PLNs). Teachers can create ad hoc PLCs at the grade level, subject area, team or other interest group of their choice.

Administrators and parents can also tap in to the electronic learning community. Parents can view upcoming assignments, class announcements and their students' academic progress. Administrators can use Edmodo analytics to gauge student achievement against standards, and encourage innovative teachers to share their ideas with peers in other district classrooms.

Vibhu Mittal, Edmodo's Chief Executive Officer, says linking the school community together is the heart of Edmodo's vision. "We believe educators are at the center of a dynamic and engaging network that connects them to fellow teachers, students, administrators, and parents. Edmodo and Office 365 further connections to education for the entire community and strengthens the home-school relationship."

### Office 365 and Edmodo help make 21st century learning a reality

Not only does CVESD intend to deploy Windows 10 on its computers, it also participates in the Customer Preview of Microsoft School Data Sync (SDS) to mirror user profiles and class rosters into Office 365 Education.

"School Data Sync enables districts to automate class management so that teachers can spend more time on instruction and lesson planning," says Tim Richardson, Senior Program Manager for School Data Sync. "Learning apps like Edmodo can access the rosters through free, public APIs, and enhance their experiences for teachers and students."

Thanks to Office 365 and Edmodo, the school day at CVESD has been redefined. Students can collaborate and pursue their intellectual and creative interests at any time, wherever they are — helping CVESD to meet its challenge of preparing students for a rapidly changing world.

"The co-authoring of documents, sharing them through the cloud, and having cloud-based computing is really the way we all do business," says Matthew Tessier, the district's Executive Director of Technology and Instruction. "So being able to provide that for kids has really been a game changer for our district."

