Kern High School District

CA

Kern County, California

The Kern High School District (KHSD) is California's largest grades 9-12 high school district.

40,340

Student population
KHSD includes 18 comprehensive high schools, 5 continuations schools, and 1 alternative Workforce Academy school serving 40,340 students.

2018

Naviance client

Partnering to Create College, Career & Life Readiness Success in California

The Kern High School District (KHSD) is located in Kern County, California at the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley. KHSD's mission is to provide programs and services to allow all students to graduate prepared to succeed in the workplace and at the postsecondary level.

In California, under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) all school districts are required to prepare a Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)—a tool for local educational agencies to set goals, plan actions, and leverage resources to meet those goals to improve student outcomes.

KHSD’s LCAP for 2019-2020 include:

• Hire highly qualified, trained and diverse teachers
• Provide relevant, innovative and ample instructional resources
• Prepare graduates for post-secondary experience
• Enhance positive, safe and supportive environments

Challenge

With a large and diverse student population comes many challenges to meeting those goals. Christy Fraley, the resource counselor for the district, shares that until recently they did not have a college and career readiness program implemented district-wide. To support the goal of preparing graduates for postsecondary experience, there were various college and career programs launched; however, they were not well-adopted across the district.

Solution

In 2018, Kern High School District implemented Naviance district-wide as one of the solutions to be able to equitably support all students in being prepared for life after high school. Naviance helps educators to comprehensively track student progress and support their college application process all in one platform. Recognizing that most California students attend a local higher education institution, Naviance helps strengthen the education pipeline to a California university or community college by improving A-G completion, college application rates, course planning to meet graduation requirements, and personalized student support.

In the 2019-2020 school year, the counseling team began implementing Naviance Course Planner. With the ability to build both graduation and A-G educational plans, they were able to provide students with a personal graduation plan that meets their college and career interests and goals.
“With Naviance Course Planner, we anticipate our A-G completion rates will improve because students are much more aware of what those requirements are and what they need to do to complete them.”

Christy Fraley
Resource Counselor

Naviance Course Planner helps students:

- Track and satisfy A-G graduation requirements
- Plan courses to meet CTE pathway requirements
- Align plans to coordinate with California Community Colleges with College Credit Courses
- Ensure they are on track to receive their State Seal of Biliteracy

Results

With the implementation of Naviance Course Planner this school year, KHSD has already seen great results:

- Doubled the number of students who have completed course plans since last year.
- Over 4,000 course plans have already been created.

Reports that have helped the KHSD team:

- Track student course activity
- Track career pathway choice and progress
- Forecast course demand

Learn more about Naviance by Hobsons: naviance.com

Given KHSD’s strong focus on improving student preparation for college and careers, it is important to the counseling team to ensure there are proven and reliable tools available to all schools in their district to effectively track and measure the progress and outcomes. Naviance Course Planner will give staff and families the ability to use reports to track CTE pathway completion as well as help ensure students are on track to meet A-G requirements and to complete goals such as achieving the State Seal of Biliteracy.

With Naviance Course Planner, students can easily build course plans aligned to their interests while ensuring they meet graduation requirements. Having ownership over their course plans, students are empowered to be in control of their learning and informed on what they need to do to accomplish their goals.

Results

Naviance enables KHSD counselors to provide the tools and resources students need to learn about themselves and the opportunities that exist for them in their postsecondary experience. Naviance’s robust offerings of assessment tools help students discover who they are and what their interests are.

With the implementation of Naviance Course Planner, staff can align career clusters and pathways with the courses that lead to that pathway completion. Students have access to career-aligned course recommendations based on their saved career clusters. This allows students to build their 4-year course plans based on their career interests to ensure they are on their best path to success after they graduate.

KHSD has already seen positive impacts of its implementation of Naviance Course Planner. They have doubled the number of students who have completed course plans by this point in the year from the 2018-19 school year and almost tripled the number from the 2017-2018 school year. With only a few months of usage by a handful of high schools, KHSD has already seen students create over 4,000 course plans.

The data found in the course plan reports helps KHSD:

- Track student course activity
- Track career pathway choice and progress
- Forecast course demand

Christy is confident that she will be able to ensure all freshmen have a personal course plan completed by the end of next year, a key step to ensuring all students are prepared for graduation and life after high school.