

case study:

Data Warehouse and School Improvement Planning



PCG | **Education**

Public Focus. Proven Results.™

THE CLIENT

South East Cornerstone School Division No. 209
Weyburn, Saskatchewan
38 Schools | 7,800 Students

THE PROJECT

School data warehousing and school improvement planning

THE CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY

Lack of data available in an efficient and timely manner inhibited informed decision making and delayed attaining system wide goals. The school division took the opportunity to build a collaborative internal network for division and school improvement planning and to consolidate information from multiple electronic sources to support data-informed decision making.

THE PCG APPROACH

SECSO engaged PCG Education near the start of an implementation of a three-year plan in 2009. A division-wide "Data Day" brought stakeholders together to determine the division priorities. PCG's **SkoVision** allowed the division to develop the SMART Goals, indicators, and strategies for the common objectives and to deploy these to schools. Schools could then develop their own individual action plans that would guide them towards deploying shared strategies and achieving goals; optionally, they could develop their own milestones, strategies, and indicators. Deployment of items into school plans allows the division to centrally update indicators for all schools in an efficient and accurate manner which would not have been possible without PCG's solutions. Schools can easily search for action plans created by other schools based on shared goals in order to have consistent standards system-wide and identify schools that are making faster progress. Schools and the division

use **SkoVision** to report to local School Community Councils, to the Board, and to the Ministry of Education.

Through the reporting and monitoring strengths of PCG's **Skopus**, SECSO worked with PCG to develop common report cards that allow the division to report student progress on individual curricular outcomes. **Skopus** aggregates data from multiple sources, including the student information system (SIS). Data feeds directly from the SIS into the division's common reports, where colour coded indicators of achievement provide a visual view of student progress. A collection of dashboards allow principals to quickly see an overview of their entire school, while larger-scale division views help locate patterns of strengths as well as areas where additional supports are required. For example, displays can help identify specific outcomes in mathematics where students across the division struggle, indicating where additional supports for both teachers and students are needed.

PCG provided training to key groups during implementation of both **SkoVision** and **Skopus**, and continues to provide ongoing support as needed. Report development is an iterative process and PCG was a critical partner in developing division report cards.

THE RESULTS

PCG has provided SECSO with the ability to identify and monitor school and division trends such as attendance patterns and student achievement, allowing more carefully targeted support and interventions for students.

Next year, the division will deploy a new multi-year strategic plan. **SkoVision** and **Skopus** will contribute data towards that plan and help prompt users to monitor goals and plans on a regular basis and provide more valuable ongoing information to help guide school and division action plans.

SECSO looks forward to further benefits resulting from PCG's solutions, such as bringing data together for individual students from multiple sources to better support student learning. The division is also an active participant in a provincial PCG user forum.

"South East Cornerstone School Division believes in the importance of reliable data to help drive our decision making and strategic planning as well as in reporting to stakeholders. Our partnership with PCG is helping us achieve these goals."

Peggy Lawson
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