

## Destiny Library Management Software supports the Warren County School District's goals in the following areas:

### **GOAL: All students, measured individually, shall demonstrate continuous improvement throughout their academic careers.**

1. Enable students to monitor their own growth by providing them with on-line, 24/7 access to information regarding their academic progress.
  - a. Destiny allows for 24/7 access to Media Center Information. Parents, Teachers, Administrators, and Students can access library and web resources to monitor their reading and research activities.
  - b. By creating a username and password any patron may save their searches and monitor their check out history from any computer with Internet access.
2. Utilize technology resources to analyze reports and information on student progress – Destiny provides District-level reporting functionality that is available to administrators for any student in the District.
3. Utilize the Internet as a means of reaching out to other professionals outside of the WCSD and WCAVTS – Destiny is web-based. Collection information and State Standards correlations can be made available to anyone outside of the District from any computer.

### **GOAL: To develop and implement by 2008, a plan of action that will allow equal access by all students to the same diverse and challenging course offerings.**

1. Administration continues to evaluate and implement equal access through current and new instructional programs including regular education, Special Education inclusion, Gifted Support Programs, distance learning, dual enrollment, advanced placement, honors courses, tutoring, remediation, summer programs, and instructional technology support. –
  - a. Currently students may search WCSD materials by author, subject, title or keyword through Web Collection Plus. With Destiny they will be able to search by author, subject, title, keyword, series and also by Boolean operators (“and” “not” “or”.) With the One Search add on students will be able to search WCSD print materials and all state and district purchased databases with one search saving valuable time. With the current system students must search each separately by logging on to each with a username and password. Currently there are not enough computers in the library for an entire class to be on at the same time. Streamlining the search process will enable more students to complete work within a given period.
  - b. As a Union Catalog, all Patrons can have access to information in the collections at every school. Interlibrary Loan is easily facilitated through Destiny. Schools can readily share resources and best practices.
  - c. Destiny offers a visual search for younger and special education students. Our current system does not offer this feature.
2. Implement electronic communication tools for students.

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- a. Through the use of features in Destiny such as the Home Page, Categories, Reading Levels, and State Standards information, curricular information can be easily communicated to Parents and Students at home at any time.
  - b. Students can save searches and monitor their check out history from any computer with Internet access.
  - c. Teachers and Library Media Specialists will be able to create resource lists through the interface for students to search. For example, many times a student is sent to the library to pick out a book for Mrs. Smith's class. Mrs. Smith has a strict policy on what materials the students are able to read for her class. In the current system the Library Media Specialist checks out the material to the student and they go back to check with Mrs. Smith. If it is not acceptable they come back. With Destiny they can bring up Mrs. Smith's list, find a book, check it out and go back to class. There is no running back and forth wasting valuable class time.
  - d. Destiny will free up one computer in each library to be used occasionally for student use. At this time the circulation desk can not be used by students because it serves as a server for the library data. Destiny uses one server at the district level which would free up the circulation desk computer to be used by a student if necessary.
3. Administration and teachers collaborate in planning professional development experiences that are differentiated, i.e., designed for the needs of staff members with different skill levels or assigned to different grade levels or curricula. – Destiny allows teachers and administrators easy access to State Standards-aligned materials, both web, print and video resources applicable to each grade level. Teachers and Librarians can also create categories of books. For example books acceptable for the Holocaust unit studied in 10<sup>th</sup> grade or books about Ancient Civilizations studied in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade can be placed in categories for other teachers to search by and collaborate with.

**GOAL: To develop, implement and fund a sustainable program for continuous staff improvement**

1. Provide career connections in curriculum that relate to all state standards.
  - a. Destiny allows teachers and administrators easy access to State Standards-aligned materials, both web, print and video resources applicable to each grade level. These materials can be used for staff to develop the tools needed to provide challenging instruction for each standard.
  - b. Currently most Professional Development sections of the libraries are small. By implementing Destiny we will create a Union Catalog by which all teachers can search and request materials from the entire district collection.

**GOAL: The Warren County School District will by 2007-2008, develop, implement, and fund a sustainable program for continuous staff improvement.**

1. Provide a means for professional staff to communicate easily with one another and other professionals outside of the WCSD and the WCAVTS (specific example: County library system) – Destiny is a communication tool through the development of home pages and the 24/7 availability of information to anyone within the learning community.

**GOAL: The Warren County School District will annually evaluate and support the implementation of technology throughout all district operations.**

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1. Warren County School District website should empower communications at all levels.
  - a. Important notices can be put on each Media Center website to communicate curricular and other District-related information. This would be available to all educational stakeholders 24/7.
  - b. Student information is automatically updated through Pentamotion. Student information and library obligations automatically travel with the student when they transfer schools within the district. This will aid in the recovery of overdue and lost materials. We currently have a paper trail that is not very effective since most students transfer before we get a chance to place the appropriate paperwork in their file.
2. Utilize technology to find and evaluate alternative revenue resources for the district. – With Destiny Textbook Manager, accountability for educational resources can be placed at the student or classroom level. Impacts from Textbook Manager have shown that losses are significantly reduced and over ordering of textbooks is eliminated. For Warren County this could result in a 5 year cost savings of approximately \$290,000.

## Warren County School District

### Textbook Costs and Predicted Savings



#### Current Textbook Status

Number of Students Enrolled in the District	5,600
Estimated Number of Textbooks per Student	6
Estimated Number of Textbooks in the District	33,600
Average Cost per Textbook	\$60
<b>Estimated Value of Textbooks in the District</b>	<b>\$2,016,000</b>

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#### Cost of Lost Textbooks

Percentage of Textbooks Lost	5.0%
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	Annual	5 Year
Number of Textbooks Lost Annually	1,680	8,400
<b>Cost of Textbooks Lost Annually</b>	<b>\$100,800</b>	<b>\$504,000</b>

### **Savings from a Textbook Loss Reduction**

Percentage Reduction of Textbook Losses	<b>3.0%</b>
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	<b>Annual</b>	<b>5 Year</b>
<b>Savings</b>	<b>\$60,480</b>	<b>\$302,400</b>

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### **Cost of Excess Inventory**

Estimated Excess Textbook Inventory	<b>2.5%</b>
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Estimated Cost of Excess Inventory	\$50,400
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	<b>Annual</b>	<b>5 Year</b>
<b>Savings with 50% Reduction in Excess Inventory</b>	<b>\$25,200</b>	<b>\$126,000</b>

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### **Overall Savings**

	<b>Annual</b>	<b>5 Year</b>
Savings from a Textbook Loss Reduction	\$60,480	\$302,400
Savings with 50% Reduction in Excess Inventory	\$25,200	\$126,000
<b>Total Savings</b>	<b>\$85,680</b>	<b>\$428,400</b>

### **Predicted Savings vs. Proposed Software Costs**

#### **Estimated Savings (Recap from previous page)**

Savings from a Textbook Loss Reduction	\$60,480
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Savings with 50% Reduction in Excess Inventory			\$25,200
<b>Total Savings</b>			<b>\$85,680</b>

### **Proposed Software Costs**

Purchase Price of Textbook Manager Software	\$36,489
Annual Licensing and Maintenance (Begins After Year One)	\$5,460

	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
<b>Total Savings</b>	\$85,680	\$85,680	\$85,680	\$85,680
<b>Software Costs</b>	(\$36,489)	(\$5,460)	(\$5,460)	(\$5,460)
<b>Final Savings Per Year</b>	<b>\$49,191</b>	<b>\$80,220</b>	<b>\$80,220</b>	<b>\$80,220</b>

<b>Five Year Cost Savings</b>	<b>\$289,851</b>
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### **GOAL: All students must meet or exceed the Pennsylvania Benchmark and show continual improvement.**

1. Provide electronic access to on-line resources, books, and periodicals. – Destiny provides 24/7 access from any computer to all books and periodicals in the District. Furthermore, access to on-line resources can be linked off of the Destiny site, resulting in the Media Center being the center of information for each school and the District.
2. Implement the use of e-texts and on-line textbooks. – Destiny supports the cataloging, searching, and circulation of e-books. Our current system does not.
3. Provide technology solutions that enable WCSD and WCAVTS administrators and counselors to become more efficient in management tasks and make more time for student issues. – With a single, centralized server, Media Specialists are no longer required to perform administrative functions needed to maintain the operation of their library system. These tasks will now be handled by the Technology Department. This frees Media Specialist to spend more time with Students and Teachers to assure that their classroom needs are met. Because Destiny is web-based many problems can be solved remotely. This will save downtime due to technical issues because the techs or the Library Administrator

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can fix the problem almost immediately by logging on to the website. Currently Library Media Specialists have to wait for the techs -who do their best to be quick- to come diagnose and then fix the problem which could cause much longer delays.

From the Warren County School District website we state two Priorities –

- I. Demonstrate Continuous Improvement – All students, measured individually, shall demonstrate continuous improvement throughout their academic careers.**
- Destiny allows for Teachers, Students, Administrators and parents to gain access to library and web resources that are applicable to the Pennsylvania Department of Education standards. These materials can be used to develop challenging curriculum that will allow students continually develop throughout their careers.
  - District level reports can be developed that gauges the student's academic achievement.
- II. Equal Access – To develop and implement by 2008, a plan of action that will allow equal access by all students to the same diverse and challenging course offerings.**
- As a Union catalog, Parents, Teachers, Administrators and Students can easily and quickly see the collections of all materials in all of the Media Centers in the District.
  - Destiny easily facilitates interlibrary loan, allowing these materials to be transferred and tracked from School to School.

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## Published Information

### **Measuring up to Standards: The Impact of School Library Programs & Information Literacy in Pennsylvania Schools**

<http://www.pde.state.pa.us/libraries/lib/libraries/measuringup.pdf>

This is a study funded by the Federal Department of Education.

#### **Executive Summary**

Pennsylvania school library programs can make a difference supporting the efforts of schools to measure up to standards. Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) reading scores increase with increases in the following characteristics of school library programs: staffing, information technology, and integration of information literacy into the curriculum. In addition, as library staffing, information resources and information

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technology rise, so too does the involvement of school librarians in teaching students and teachers how to find and assess information. The relationship between staffing and test scores is not explained away by other school or community conditions.

## **Staffing**

PSSA reading test scores increase with increases in:

- school librarian staff hours; and
- support staff hours.

## **Information Technology**

Where networked computers link school libraries with classrooms, labs and other instructional sites, students earn higher PSSA reading test scores. These higher scores are particularly linked to the numbers of computers enabling teachers and students to utilize:

- the ACCESS PENNSYLVANIA database;
- licensed databases; and
- Internet/World Wide Web.

## **Integrating Information Literacy**

Information literate students know how to use information and ideas effectively. The “keystone” finding of this study is the importance of an integrated approach to information literacy teaching. For school library programs to be successful agents of academic achievement, information literacy must be an integral part of the school’s approach to both standards and curriculum.

*“High performing schools devoted many more resources to libraries than low-performing schools.” - School Libraries and Their Impact on Student Performance*

*Research Brief - Keith Curry Lance, September 2003*

*“Test scores rise in both elementary and middle schools as Library Managers and Teachers work together.” - How School Librarians Help Kids Achieve Standards*

*2nd Colorado Study - Keith Curry Lance, April 2000*

**Because of the ease of use of Destiny, and the ready access to Standards-aligned materials in Destiny, Teachers and Library Media Specialists can collaborate very closely to develop curriculum that is based on the Core Content Standards on which Students are evaluated. The District will recognize the benefit since Students will achieve higher test scores.**

## Actual Results from School Districts that have implemented Destiny

- Web-distributed system is available to students, parents, teachers and administrators anywhere, anytime.
- **Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) is reduced** by eliminating the need to replace site-based server hardware on a 3 to 5 year cycle. This could translate to a 5 year savings of over \$30,000 assuming modest hardware is used.
- TCO is reduced by spending less time upgrading and supporting software. Estimated time savings of over 8 hours per year in software upgrades alone.
- Other districts using Destiny report reducing the time spent doing database management activities at each site by 3 hours per week for each school across the district. That translates to 12 more hours per week **spending time with students and enhancing the learning process.**
- State Standards subscription service allows teachers, students and parents to find materials and web sites that support State Standard objectives.
- Centralized installation allowed the creation of an interlibrary loan program.
- TitlePeek™ subscription gives students a look at the covers of the books they find, helping younger students search more effectively. TitlePeek presents data to students in a manner they expect, helping them to become life-long learners.
- Teachers now actively search for library resources that support state standards as they prepare lesson plans.
- District has been able to implement interlibrary loans, greatly expanding the resources available to teachers and students.
- Identified over \$140,000 in lost textbooks and library books.
- Enabled precise management of nearly 250,000 district textbooks.
- Encouraged more students to conduct library searches through Destiny's easy-to-understand interface.
- Using reporting functionality of Destiny, the district was able to show a 300% increase in library usage.



Works cited

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