CASE STUDY

Destiny® Library Manager™

Waupun Area School District
Waupun, Wisconsin
Schools: 3 • Grade Levels: K-12
Students: 1,900

VISION: To improve efficiency by having a single, centralized library system for the entire district that could be accessed from any building within the district. The Waupun Area School District knew that a better system would boost teacher reliance on library resources to support standards-based teaching. Additionally, with one district media specialist in a district that previously had three, time savings and efficiency were key.

SOLUTION: Waupun Area School District turned to Destiny Library Manager to provide a powerful, centralized library management system that would save time, increase efficiency and expand student and teacher access to library resources.

RESULT: Destiny Library Manager allows the district media specialist and her staff to easily access all library resources from anywhere and helps them more closely collaborate with teachers and students. Along with increased efficiency, Destiny Library Manager and its integration with Follett Shelf™ supports Waupun’s goal of being a 21st century library system.

“We needed efficiency for everyone – for staff, for students. With Destiny, we found it.”

— Katie Eickelman, District Media Specialist

Challenge
At one time, the Waupun Area School District had three media specialists at their three separate facilities – along with three separate automated library systems. Eventually, staffing evolved into one media specialist for the entire district. “Each system worked separately and I couldn’t determine what was going on at another school without physically going over there to access their system,” said Katie Eickelman. “As the district media specialist, time efficiency is huge for me. I needed to make my job working within three schools easier...The old system prevented me from giving fast and efficient service to patrons at each building.” Furthermore, students and teachers at each individual school were limited to the library resources at their building, because the current system didn’t allow them to ‘see’ what was available at the other facilities. “That was so inefficient and incredibly limiting.” Additionally, each building had their own server, making daily backups a pain.

Learn more
Visit FollettLearning.com
800.323.3397 • 815.344.8700
Solution
The district made the switch to Destiny® Library Manager™ in June 2012, after Eickelman was drawn to Destiny’s One Search™ features, the centralized catalog, its ability to create resource lists and quick access to Titlewave® and Follett Shelf™. In choosing Destiny, Eickelman pointed out that in addition to increased efficiency, the district also wanted a system that would easily integrate with their SIS. “Being able to track our students from K-12 and keep them in the system was a strong selling point for us, as the director of curriculum wanted to map student data in that way,” said Eickelman. “Being able to use the patron converter has been very helpful for me as well.” Eickelman pointed out that the implementation process went smoothly and “the onsite training was very helpful for my library aides. Destiny is user friendly so I can kind of train myself.”

Looking down the road, funding is a huge aspect for the future of the library program at Waupun. Administration’s goal is to continue to move the library toward a ‘21st century atmosphere’, especially at the high school. “I want students to be able to come in and use the device they are most comfortable with…iPads®, Chrome Books, Netbooks, etc. and still access all of the information. With Follett Shelf and Destiny, I know that our students will be able to access all of the books in the library, regardless of the platform.”

“With each passing day, I see it transforming the way we view and use the library. Every time a new patron asks a question, I discover another great benefit. It’s such a student-friendly way to get information.”

– Katie Eickelman, District Media Specialist

Results
Sixth months after implementation, Waupun Area School District is enjoying the efficiency, accessibility and state-of-the-art benefits they were searching for. First and foremost, Eickelman is thrilled that she can access the system from anywhere, anytime – no more traversing between buildings to login to different systems. “For me it is really all about how easy Destiny is to use. There are so many time-saving features. The ease of use anywhere is great! I use it on my phone between buildings or even at the airport when I’m waiting for a flight. I can use it from any building and any device. I can log in from home. Being able to log in to Titlewave and import our records right from Destiny is awesome.”

The staff and students have all voiced their approval of Destiny’s One Search, which allows them to access library materials, websites, databases and more in One Search and then allows them to make a resource list. “Being able to keep those things together has been great for our students.”

“My aides love it, I love it and I am constantly finding new ways it can help me,” said Eickelman. “I’m still exploring all of Destiny’s features, but it’s fun watching students and staff realize what Destiny can do.”

About Follett’s K-12 Business
Follett is the largest provider of educational materials and technology solutions to PreK-12 libraries, classrooms, learning centers and school districts in the United States and a major supplier to educational institutions worldwide. Follett distributes books, reference materials, digital resources, eBooks and audiovisual materials, as well as pre-owned textbooks. Follett also is one of the leading providers of integrated educational technology for the management of physical and digital assets, the tracking, storing and analyzing of academic data and digital learning environment tools for the classroom focusing on student achievement.