

EmployeeSafe Case Study

EmployeeSafe helped Yorktown ISD move staff training online and implement a chemical safety program – all in a single platform.

Automating Safety Programs Makes Time for Focusing on Effective Teaching Practices Yorktown Independent School District

District Overview

Schools:	3
Staff:	86
Students:	540

The Challenge

In addition to providing students with a robust education, Yorktown Independent School District (ISD) in Yorktown, TX must train all district employees on specific safety practices such as bloodborne pathogens. This is a task each public school district is required by law to complete, regardless of its size, budget, or available resources.

“We spent so much of our in-service days on compliance training that we felt like it was taking away our staff’s opportunity for other professional development,” said Chad Gee, superintendent of Yorktown ISD. “While safety training is very important, our staff needed time to hone their teaching skills.”

And, deploying staff safety training was not the only safety task the district had to tackle. Yorktown ISD needed to get a handle on its chemical supplies, including safely disposing of expired chemicals and properly storing chemicals.

The Solution

While these two tasks are very different, both can be streamlined using the PublicSchoolWORKS EmployeeSafe Suite, particularly the Staff Training System and the SDS Now! modules. Yorktown ISD began using EmployeeSafe at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year.

The Benefits

Every Yorktown ISD employee, regardless of their job description, now completes their safety training in the EmployeeSafe Staff Training System. The online system automatically deploys online training courses on safety topics such as bloodborne pathogens, chemical and laboratory safety, child abuse identification and prevention, bullying and suicide prevention, personal and professional social media use, and more. Once courses are assigned, staff can complete them when and where they choose. The system even periodically emails employees to complete the course before the deadline. When the training deadline passes, the system automatically sends training completion reports to administration, making follow-up much more structured.

For improved chemical safety, Yorktown ISD first hired a chemical disposal company to safely remove and dispose of all outdated chemicals. Using the EmployeeSafe SDS Now! system, the district now has 24/7 online access to safety data sheets (SDS), as well as chemical safety specialists and hotlines in the event of a chemical-related emergency.

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All custodial staff and science teachers are automatically assigned an online staff training course on how to use and read the SDS and what to do in the event of an emergency such as a chemical spill. In addition, PublicSchoolWORKS provides stickers and posters with the hotline number to place in strategic locations. Yorktown ISD hangs the posters throughout its school buildings so the information is easily accessible.

The Results

Now that staff training takes place online, the district’s in-service days can address professional development needs for staff.

“With the time we got back from moving staff training online, we’re able to focus on more curriculum-related issues and classroom matters during in-service days,” said Gee. “For example, our districtwide literacy initiative for students in grades Pre K-2 requires educators to use an online phonics program. We can now use in-service days to train teachers to better utilize this program. We’re able to focus on more effective teaching practices that promote student success.”

For more information: 1.877.77WORKS or sales@publicschoolworks.com

