Digital Resources

INTEGRATION CONSIDERATIONS

Overview

Introduction

Brief History

Why Integrate?

Integration Challenges

Working with IT

Brian Edomm

Programmer/Service Desk Manager
Irving ISD
briane@irvingisd.net

Recently

Managed IMA 2015 Digital Resource integration project

Manage ongoing support for 59 digital texts across 10 platforms and counting.

Passion

Solving problems with the appropriate application of technology. **Continuous improvement**.

District Stats

35,000+ students

2,500+ teachers

What is a digital resource?

Any resource delivered digitally...
- Textbooks
- Instructional activities
- Assessments
- Manipulatives
- Games used to reinforce skills

What do you mean by Integration?

In the context of digital resources, we mean taking data from

◦ Your Student System

◦ Your HR System or Identity Management System

◦ Your district user account store (e.g., Active Directory, Google Apps, eDirectory, etc.)

and then sending the data to a digital resource platform.

A Brief History in Irving ISD

Prior to 2014

◦ Decentralized, little integration, no true SSO

2014-2015

◦ Large IMA digital adoption demanded SSO and integration, but it was new for **everyone**. Took longer than planned.

2015-2016

◦ More IMA digital adoptions. More SSO, more integration. **More success**.

Why Integrate?

Imagine you are **Jacob, a 3rd grade student** in Low-Tech ISD without integration or SSO:

Subject	Platform	Username	Password
Social Studies	Pearson Realize	jacsmith@stu.irvingisd.net	11234AB
Science	ThinkCentral	jacsmith@stu.irvingisd.net	111234
	STEMscopes	111234	111234
ELAR	ConnectED	jacsmithiisd	111234c
Math	Everyday Math	jacobs2435	544
	ReflexMath	mdiaz-iisd	111234

Why Integrate?

Imagine you are **Mr. Smith, a middle school GT Science Teacher** in Low-Tech ISD with three preps.

Subject	Text to Assign	Platforms	Students	Accounts	Rosters	Assignments
6th GT SCI	3 (6th,7th,8th)	2	30	60	60	90
6th GT SCI	3 (6th,7th,8th)	2	30	60	60	90
7th GT SCI	3 (6th,7th,8th)	2	30	60	60	90
7th GT SCI	3 (6th,7th,8th)	2	30	60	60	90
8th GT SCI	4 (6th,7th,8th,BIO)	2	30	60	60	120
		Total	**150**	**300**	**300**	**480**

Integration Challenges

Selecting the right resources

Many ways to skin this cat

Branding

Managing licenses and assignments

District IT Capability & Capacity

Selecting the right resources

To improve adopting resources with adequate integration support:

◦ Include IT during the selection process.

◦ Have publishers submit a capabilities questionnaire for each package, completed by a technical person, in writing.

◦ Create capabilities matrix to support committee decision.

◦ Make sure they support your devices!

Integration Capabilities

Account Provisioning
◦ Teacher, Student, Instructional Support accounts

Rosters Synchronization
◦ Setup and maintain classes (add/remove students)
◦ Access for secondary teacher (co-teacher)

Resource Assignments
◦ Assigning texts to students and teachers

Single Sign-On

Platform Capability Matrix

Green: Preferred   Yellow: Passable   Red: Undesirable

Platform	Pub	Teacher Account	Student Account	Support Account	Co-Teacher	Add Roster	Remove Roster	Assign SE	Assign TE	SSO
Realize	Pearson	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto	Teacher	Teacher	Yes
MathXL	Pearson	Teacher	Teacher	User	No	Teacher	Teacher	Teacher	Teacher	No
ThinkCentral	HMH	Manual Import	Manual Import	Manual Import	No	Teacher	Teacher	Teacher	Teacher	No
Holt McDougal	HMH	Manual Import	Manual Import	Manual Import	No	Once	Teacher	Teacher	Teacher	No
Big Ideas	HMH	Auto	Auto	No	No	Auto	Auto	Teacher	Teacher	Yes
ConnectED	MHE	Auto	Auto	Auto	No	Auto	Teacher	Auto	Auto	Yes

Many ways to skin this cat

The technical methods of each publishers integration are different.

If you adopt 5 publishers' resources, expect 5 different projects.

Exception:
◦ Platform supports SSO and Sync with clever.com (or similar service).

Branding - a rose by any other name…

…is confusing if we are discussing roses.

Pick a standard convention for the platform.
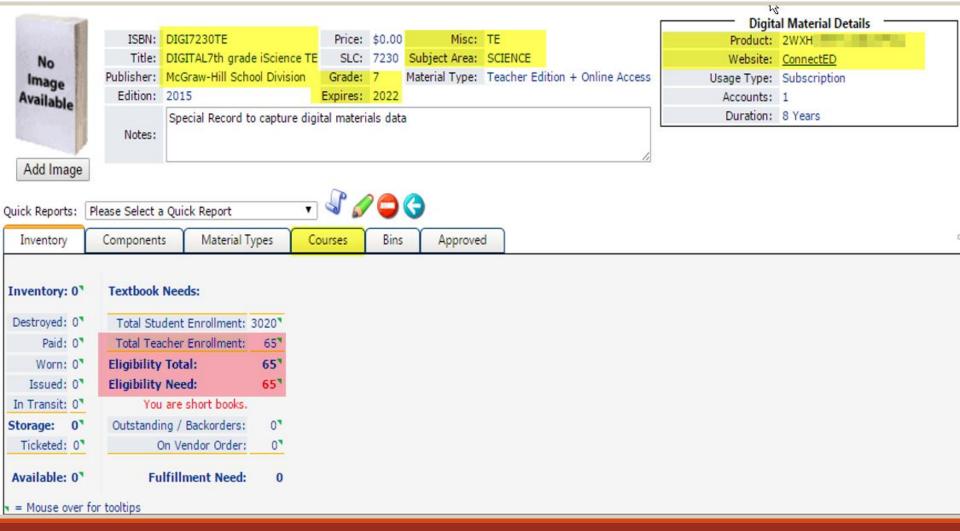◦ MHE ConnectED
◦ HMH ThinkCentral

Documentation
◦ Keep a list and refer to it often
◦ Publish it with various groupings depending on audience

Managing Licenses and Assignments

Licensing and assignments should be managed for digital like they are for print.

Easier to record Digital Resources and manage them in Textbook System separately from print material.

Integrations need data stored on these digital resource records.

Digital Resource Record in TIPWeb

Irving ISD has requested a custom report from TIPweb with the details highlighted in yellow for use in Digital Resource Integrations and SSO.

IRVING ISD - INFORMATION SYSTEMS - BRIAN EDOMM

District IT Capability & Capacity

Skills needed: SQL, Scripting (SSIS, Perl, etc.), knowledge of data in SIS and possibly HR.

Don't have the skills in house, services like clever.com can help.

If you do have the skills in house, start the discussion as soon as possible to get on their project schedule.

Working With IT

With a new adoption, include Technology on your selection committee. They can help:

◦ Determine device compatibility

◦ Determine expected level of integration based on platform and in-house capabilities.

◦ Discuss implementation timelines.

After selecting a resource, let IT know as soon as possible and schedule time to define the project timeline and solution.

Agree on responsibility for managing parts of platform that cannot be automated or integrated.

Provide course resource assignments in a "digestible" format.

Questions & Contact

Brian Edomm

Service Desk Manager / Programmer

Irving Independent School District

2621 W. Airport Freeway Irving, TX 75062

www.irvingisd.net

briane@irvingisd.net

(972) 600-5000