



Spotlight on school solutions

DA readers pick top education tools for powering learning processes, simplifying administrative tasks

By Ray Bendici



This year, *District Administration's* Readers' Choice Top 100 Products features selections from more than 1,500 nominations that range from cutting-edge student information systems and cloud-based security to innovative gamification software and state-of-the-art classroom projectors.

Administrators and school leaders nationwide have shared feedback on a wealth of education resources to help their K12 peers find the best products to achieve district excellence.

After receiving nominations and testimonies over a six-month span, our editorial board carefully narrowed down the list based on the quality and quantity of the products.

The 2016 Readers' Choice Top 100 Products are presented in random order on the following pages. Winning companies have also been recognized with honorable mentions if additional products received nominations. Many products have won in years past, but several new winners have joined the list.

We hope this roster of great products can make a difference in your district and inspire innovation in the world of K12 in years to come. Congratulations to all the winners!



ATTENTION2ATTENDANCE

School Innovations & Achievement

Recognizing that achievement is linked to students coming to class, Attention2Attendance is a software-and-service product. It uses an automated cloud-based robot to monitor and collect data securely from student information systems for analysis, and then automatically sends notifications to students who are having attendance issues. www.sia-us.com



"In our second year of implementing Attention2Attendance, our district continues to make significant gains in creating a culture of showing up. Every piece of data we receive is actionable. The district chronic absentee rate has already improved by over 5 percent."

—Cynda Rickert, superintendent,
Jackson County School District 9, Eagle Point, Oregon

SI&A is closing the achievement gap: national recognition four years running

(El Dorado Hills, Calif.) School Innovations & Achievement's groundbreaking achievement program has been recognized for the fourth straight year as a Readers Choice Top 100 product by District Administration magazine.

The Achievement Initiative, featuring Attention2Attendance®, is helping close the achievement gap among more than 2 million students in six states, once again earned the national recognition among a competitive field of more than 1,500 entries as the result of votes cast by its school clients.

"We are very gratified to again to be included on this prestigious list," said Jeff Williams, School Innovations & Achievement's president and chief executive officer. "But I think what is most compelling about this award is that it came from our clients. The district and school personnel that actually use Attention2Attendance on a daily basis and can see firsthand how our software and services are making a difference in the lives of students."

Based on the fundamental, but often overlooked, link between good attendance habits and improved academic achievement, the Achievement Initiative provides a seamless connection between school staff, district administrators and parents that

ensures early intervention and careful monitoring.

Districts that partner with SI&A and make the commitment to focus on attendance are closing the achievement gap. Through early and consistent interventions, they have reported an increase in communications with parents of 975 percent and as a result, graduation rates among at-risk students have increased about 15.5 percent on average.

The Achievement Initiative is currently being employed by districts in California, Illinois, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon and Texas.

District Administration magazine has a readership of more than 200,000 K-12 school leaders in virtually every district in the U.S.



The Achievement Initiative
Attention2Attendance®

More than 2 million students strong.
Join the movement.