

Somerset Area School District Advances Communications with Digital Signage

Somerset Area School District switched to Arreya Digital Signage Suite eliminating the need for a PA system, and allowing for student-led morning announcements to be shown to the school district.

Progressive School District

Somerset Area School District consists of 4 schools in Somerset, Pennsylvania. The district is a progressive school system where school technology is an integral part of every student's daily life. A 1:1 school district where every student has a personal iPad. The school district is always looking for new ways to teach students about technology through hands-on experiences. As a small district, Somerset is able to quickly and easily implement technology throughout the district. Each principal fits technology to their schools unique needs. The COVID pandemic was a specific challenge that was met with technology. Hybrid and remote teaching was implemented for current and future use.

"As far as we can tell, there is nothing we have seen that Arreya cannot do."

Travis Bowser, Network Administrator

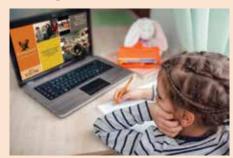
Customizing Communications For Each School

The principal's of Somerset Schools were looking for a new way to communicate information to students and faculty. They wanted a system that allowed each school to show specific information. be easy to update and scalable. The school's original PA system no longer fit the needs of the district or the Somerset teaching philosophy. Each principal wanted a platform for different information, but they all wanted to motivate and teach students about new technology. All while updating the old school information system. They wanted a way to combine cafeteria menus, morning announcements, graduation and event videos into one platform that all the schools could use. It was important that it be a new technology, digital platform and that it would engage the students. It was also important that the software be compatible with Apple technology. All while being cost effective, easy to create content and have multi-level management capabilities.

A Flexible Solution For Everyone

Engagement is always a priority with Somerset Area School District. But with the COVID pandemic and the implementation of remote

at-a-glance



The flexibility of the digital signage system is key to the Somerset Area School District communications success. Each principal can create their own unique digital content for their specific school needs. Arreya allows for the technology to be used by students to create the livestream morning announcements using the school's YouTube channel. The students learn about new technologies and are more engaged by the video announcements. Expansion the communications into remote learning situations using the unique Arreya PWA feature. This allows remote students, staff and family to access the school's information channel anywhere and on any device.

teaching, engagement became harder to accomplish. The need for a new communication system became priority. A school principal had visited a different school system who was using ARREYA, and liked the idea. They started out with 5 monitors and added 10 more very quickly. Anywhere that might catch a student's attention. Business office, lounge, lunch room, entrances, 2 in junior high cafeteria and outside, in library, 2 in auditorium, one in each of the offices, one in faculty, 3 in senior high cafeteria. ARREYA's scalability made it easy to add devices.

One principal wanted to do lunch menus, and the senior high principal wanted to switch voice announcements over to video, which students create. They discovered ARREYA could do anything they wanted. The teacher runs the class and students in the class use Adobe Premier Pro, and then upload to YouTube channel, which the Arreya YouTube link then plays.

Somerset also uses ARREYA Digital Signage Suite for events, allowing remote viewing by people who can't attend. Live streaming athletic events, graduation, and concerts with YouTube links through the Somerset ARREYA channel.

Since 2017, Somerset continues to expand the information they communicate through the schools digital signage system. They began job postings for seniors and adding photos of award ceremonies and other student activities.



Looking To The Future

Somerset has plans for expansion of the ARREYA Digital Signage system. Google Chromeboxes will be added and used portably so more classrooms can be involved in the technology. Monitors will be added to more locations to greet visitors of the schools. Somerset also plans on implementing the alert features, looking to keep their students, faculty and school safe as they continue the nurturing educational environment.

The remote learning situations will be available for students as needed and with the PWA feature Somerset will continue to allow the viewing of the morning announcements and other information. Keeping student engagement alive even when not in-person.



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