Empowering K-12 school districts for success

While the US economy is strong, K-12 school districts still struggle with adequate funding. As the future of public school funding remains uncertain, this challenge is expected to continue. At the same time, in this era of big data, school districts must manage more information than ever before. Creating a better path forward means optimizing the operations that keep schools running, while effectively mining growing volumes of data.

With Birst® Analytics for K-12, deployed in the cloud, analysis that would normally take days, weeks, and months—or even longer—is ready in an instant. Birst, an Infor® company, connects every part of your organization via a shared data fabric, including disparate systems. Analytics delivery is accelerated across the organization, empowering your people to work smarter, with reliable data that creates institutional trust.

Birst Analytics for K-12 connects every part of your district via a shared data fabric that accelerates the delivery of analytics to staff and stakeholders, eliminates information silos, and creates a culture of trusted, data-driven decision making.
What’s at stake for K-12 school districts

In our new digital age, district personnel may be expected to provide more reporting and data-driven decision support to justify where resources are used, and why. Stakeholders may want data turnaround, quickly, as they become accustomed to the speed of information ushered in by the digital revolution.

And then there are the internal challenges found in many school districts. Systems remain in silos, by role, location and function. Operational and academic information is likely held separately, too, preventing a whole-picture look at financial allocations and their impacts. Exacerbating all of this is district reliance on legacy technology, which does not offer the level of insight or agility needed to make crucial decisions about resource use and alignment.

What’s needed is a system that is sustainable for the future, enabling critical systems to work together in a way that is more effective, cost-efficient, and flexible. That’s why Birst Analytics for K-12 provides you with the capabilities you need to help your school district both process and extract information in real time—without adding staff.

Smarter insights made easy

You know that data is meaningful for your users and stakeholders. But with Birst Analytics for K-12 you don’t have to be a data architect or have deep technical expertise in order to deliver the information when and how it’s needed. Existing personnel, across district roles, can use Birst like data experts. Data modeling is automated and there is no manual setup of infrastructure, servers, network connectivity or operating systems. Final report compilation and presentation via interactive dashboards is as easy as putting together a PowerPoint slide.

Birst Analytics help K-12 organizations:

- Provide unprecedented insights into resource allocation
- Create sophisticated institutional intelligence with existing staff
- Respond to stakeholders in minutes, not days, weeks or months
- Bring together multiple systems to better manage students and operations
- Get more done with fewer resources

Let the cloud do the work

According to a recent Ed Tech article, 80% of school IT leaders say their districts are using some kind of cloud-based software, with four out of five district leaders using cloud-based systems from third-party servers. In a time- and resource-strapped organization, cloud deployment makes sense. With limited IT staff, traditional on-premises data centers often take longer to support, maintain and upgrade. They also have more risk of unplanned downtime. Hacking worries are persistent, and district IT staff must consistently prioritize internet security for students while ensuring crucial data is always backed up and recoverable.

Because Birst is deployed in the cloud, you’ll always have access to the latest version of our analytics software. You’ll also be able to achieve scalability without adding hardware or staff. Birst runs on state-of-the-art secure data centers to erase common concerns about data security, as it is one of the world’s most reliable cloud infrastructures. With Birst Analytics for K-12, staff can be redeployed to more value-added responsibilities focused on the core mission of education: student learning.
Why Infor

Infor Public Sector has been providing K-12 solutions for more than 25 years, offering one of the most advanced options available for today’s educational institutions. Serving more than 4,100 public sector organizations of every size and type, our solutions enable more efficient, agile, compliant and secure organizations. With Birst Analytics for K-12 you can extend the power of your Infor Public Sector solution and enable your organization to leverage analytics that will help you work smarter.

2 Gartner, Critical Capabilities for Analytics and Business Intelligence Platforms, May 7, 2018.