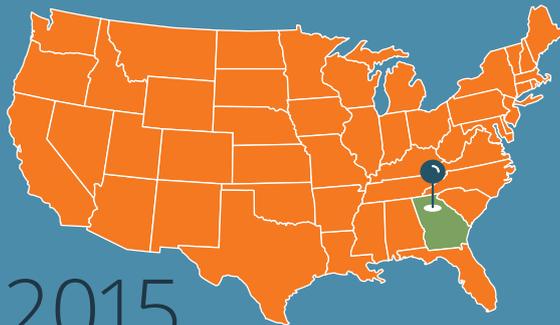# DeKalb County Public Schools

Overview:

The Dekalb County (GA) School District (DCSD) resolved to switch to ONE standardized LMS platform district-wide to streamline instructional and workflow processes as well as:

- Manage, organize, and update their curriculum
- Serve as part of the district blended instruction model for early adopter teacher group
- Support district's device-agnostic infrastructure and cloud-based applications

Customer:

DeKalb County Public Schools, Atlanta, Georgia USA

2015
Year Implemented itslearning

District Profile:

3rd largest school district in the state of Georgia, located within the metro area of Atlanta

103,000 students

24,000 of the students migrated to the United States

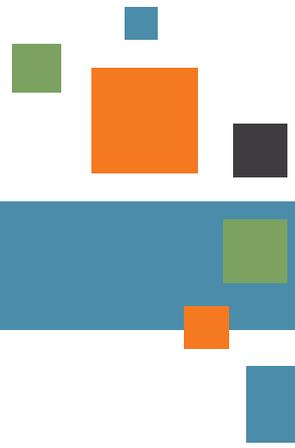**157** languages are spoken by students within the district

14,000 employees

Integrating Diverse Operating Systems, Devices, and Software for Streamlined Curriculum Management and District Efficiency

The schools within DeKalb County School District (DCSD) enjoy a great deal of autonomy in the way they use instructional technology. But one consequence of that freedom was the existence of six learning management systems (LMSs) across the district, which meant that accessing courses, delivering curriculum updates and retrieving student data was a time-consuming and inefficient process for content area coordinators and other district-level personnel.

In February 2015, DCSD began a rigorous selection process to find an LMS they could use throughout the entire district. "We invited what we felt were, based on our research, the top seven learning management companies," said DCSD's Chief Information Officer Gary Brantley. In the end, the selection committee of more than 70 educators and the 15-member IT team opted for itslearning.

> "We're looking at using itslearning to facilitate better instruction: to make sure it's seamless, engaging, and based off of the district's curriculum."

Gary Brantley
Chief Information Officer

"I think what really, really sold it was the fact that we just kept hearing great things about the implementation experience," said Brantley. "We kept hearing about smooth transitions, great functionality, and from a technical aspect, we heard great things about the integration with other education programs."

From Student Learning Objective Assessments to Blended Learning Tool

First, the district acclimatized all teachers by having them deliver student learning objectives (SLOs) assessments in the system. Now, an early adopter group of almost 750 teachers is trying out the platform's capabilities as a blended learning tool.

As part of that initiative, the district loaded more than 250 courses across all subjects and grade levels onto the platform during the summer of 2015. DCSD personnel used itslearning's customizable planner to organize the curriculum and ensure that it was aligned to standards.

Brantley reports that the early adopter group has found the system's interface and functionality to be very user-friendly. "They were extremely excited about the fact that everything was in one location, and that they did not have to close this particular application and then go on that application," he said.

Continuing, Brantley noted that itslearning has made it much easier for teachers district-wide to deliver assessments. "And the data that they're getting back is far more accurate," he said. "This will allow us to tie all the different data streams together to produce true data analytics for each classroom. That will help us chart our course going forward….and we'll know in real time where improvement needs to take place in our classrooms."

its learning

AT THE HEART OF EDUCATION

itslearning inc, One Gateway Center, Suite 702, Newton, MA 02458
T: 1-888-853-2761 | www.itslearning.net | briefing@itslearning.com