



In Missouri, Discovery Education *unitedstreaming* Turns New Technology into Teachers' Friend

Desire to access extraordinary content gives Show-Me State educators the push they need to master new in-classroom technology.

Nondas Bogart, director of library media services in the Camdenton School District in Missouri, was frustrated. She was constantly buying videos that teachers were not using. As she looked at other media options such as video-on-demand, she faced a challenge: Though the district has a strong technology department with up-to-date computers and an increasing emphasis on technology, some teachers were not comfortable using the new technology. Also, she wanted to find content that correlated to Missouri's state standards.

Listening to the Librarians

Before moving into her current position 10 years ago, Bogart had been at the district for 31 years, starting out as the high-school librarian. Now, as the main contact for all of the district's librarians, she was in charge of overseeing resource purchases. When one of the middle-school librarians was contacted by a technology coordinator who had heard about *unitedstreaming*™ at a conference, the librarian contacted Bogart, who had seen *unitedstreaming* at a conference as well. With all this buzz, it was time to try out the service!

This being the Show-Me State, the preview account that was set up to give teachers the opportunity to try out *unitedstreaming* received a great deal of use. Those teachers who used the preview account were excited about getting a paid subscription, and were instrumental in encouraging others to use the service.

School Kits a Big Help

In lieu of formal training in the district, Bogart asked the librarians to serve as liaisons at each school. They received their school passcodes along with a school kit filled with enough material for all of the teachers. The rapid growth in users from zero at the beginning of the school year to 134 registered users with 904 log-ins in three months has demonstrated how dramatically these materials worked — along with the commitment of Bogart and the librarians.

Another key stakeholder in the success of *unitedstreaming* in the school district was the technology director, who was responsible for keeping the computer equipment as current as



possible. For instance, when there was an issue with sound on the computers, better speakers were purchased.

A Catalyst for Embracing Technology

Some of the teachers in the district embraced this new technology, while others were more hesitant to fully integrate *unitedstreaming* into their classrooms.

But Bogart relentlessly reminded the teachers how easy *unitedstreaming* is to use. When teachers called up looking for videos on a certain subject, Bogart always asked if they had checked *unitedstreaming* first.

Many different groups in the district now use *unitedstreaming* in innovative ways to improve their educational experience. The junior language-arts class was putting on Arthur Miller's "The Crucible," and found *unitedstreaming* content related to the Salem witch trials that made their encounter with the play more vivid.

Additionally, the In-school Suspension program uses video clips as part of its assignments to students in the program.

Although many teachers use *unitedstreaming* as part of their curriculum, Bogart found they were not all using the more advanced features to create in-depth projects. So they took more advanced training through the Discovery Educator Network (DEN).

Many teachers report that they are so eager to use this extraordinary video-on-demand service that it gives them the impetus they need to overcome their reluctance to master new in-classroom technology.

Discovery Education *unitedstreaming* has allowed everyone from students to teachers to library media specialists the opportunity to integrate technology and enrich their educational experience with up-to-date, standards-based content.

Please contact 800.323.9084 or support@unitedstreaming.com with questions about this case study or any other matter.