

## THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Virginia Department of Education, encompassing 135 divisions (districts), nearly 2000 schools, and 1.2 million students, needed to automate the process of acquiring state-assigned identifiers that uniquely identify each student on tests and within state-mandated Student Records Data Collection (SRC) reports. Additionally they needed to automate the process of generating the SRC reports, which must be submitted at least five different times each year.

### Challenge

The State's SRC reports are fairly labor intensive and can take several weeks to complete, which means that a number of administrative personnel at both the division and state level are dedicated to continually gathering data for and producing SRC reports. Automating SRC reporting was needed to both yield higher quality data and to save the divisions and state significant time, effort, and money.

### Solution

State-wide implementation of the Schools Interoperability Framework (SIF®), focused on automating the process of acquiring state-assigned unique student identifiers. To meet this objective, the VDOE chose the SIFWorks® Student Locator Framework™ (SLF), a SIF-enabled technology that automates the assignment and management of persistent student IDs. The completed project integrates the district-based student information system (SIS) to the state's EIMS data warehouse using SIF, and includes the installation of Edustructures' marketing-leading SIFWorks Enterprise Zone Integration Servers (ZIS), SIS SIF agents and the SIFWorks SLF at 40 divisions. Additionally, the SIFWorks Enterprise ZIS and the SIFWorks SLF are installed at the VDOE's secure hosting facility.

### Results

The focused scope and aggressive implementation schedule allowed the "mission-critical" SIF implementation program to quickly expand 33 percent from the initial pilot plan, delivering the state's first unique ID management program (accomplished by the SIFWorks Student Locator Framework). The second phase of the project will more than double the number of divisions with installed Zone Integration Servers, SIS SIF agents, and the SIFWorks SLF. Future SIF-enabled resources include the SIFWorks Vertical Reporting Framework™ (VRF), built to manage the complex, behind-the-scenes work of automating state data collections for accountability reports and monitoring the collection process at the state. The SIFWorks VRF—currently operating in other statewide vertical reporting implementations—greatly reduces data collection times and improves data accuracy in mission critical reports, delivering the data into the data warehouse and other analysis tools.



"The ability to create and manage unique IDs—identifiers that persist for each individual student throughout their educational career—is a key accomplishment, allowing educators to successfully monitor the educational progress of our students. Of equal importance is the ease with which the implementation has taken place. The implementation of SIF in Virginia has proceeded ahead of schedule and on budget and we're looking forward to expanding the scope to of our project to include automating more data collections in support of providing timely, in-depth longitudinal reports on all our students."

BETHANN CANADA,  
*director of educational information management,*  
*Virginia Department of Education*

## Assuring Your Success

Edustructures ensures your SIF implementation success story by offering a comprehensive program of training, technical support and consulting services.

## Implementation

Our implementation engineers have successfully installed more state and district projects than any other SIF vendor, experience that results in a superior implementation. The implementation process involves analysis and planning, installing the server software, creating zones, defining the agents that will be registered in each zone, and configuring access control permissions.

## Project Management

As the first company dedicated to delivering SIF-based solutions, Edustructures offers a dedicated staff to deliver extensive, real world, best-practice project management for your implementation.

## Training/Professional Development

Edustructures offers a variety of training options tailored to each district or state need. Basic SIFWorks training includes installation, configuration, and continued maintenance of the SIF infrastructure.

## Ongoing Support

Edustructures maintains an experienced team of support professionals focused on your success via toll-free phone and email. Additionally, our Customer Support Center portal offers downloads of the latest versions of our products, the ability to open or view support cases, browsing of technical support bulletins and product documentation, and access to our technical knowledge base.

## Edustructures: SIF is all we do!

- **MORE state and district SIF implementations than any other SIF solution provider**
- **MORE available certified agents than any other SIF solution provider**
- **MORE SIF agents have been built using our technology than all other technology platforms combined**
- **FIRST to market with a commercial Zone Integration Server (ZIS)**
- **FIRST to implement district-wide SIF solutions**
- **FIRST to scale SIF to State-level implementations**
- **FIRST commercial SIF development toolkit**

## ABOUT EDUSTRUCTURES

Edustructures is the recognized leader in SIF integration solutions for the pK-12 education market, making it possible for market-leading Student Information, Library, Transportation, Cafeteria, Directory solutions and more to reliably and securely share data in real time. Through its SIFWorks integration platform, comprehensive professional services, and business relationships with technology providers and educators, Edustructures connects the systems that power education.

**To get your school, district or state connected, contact Edustructures:  
877.790.1261**