

EVERYTHING A GROWING DISTRICT NEEDS

Waukee CSD Gets Closer to Becoming a Cashless, Paperless District

District: Waukee Community School District

Location: Iowa

Size: Around 11,500 students

As one of the fastest growing districts in Iowa, Waukee Community School District (WCSD) can't afford to waste any time. Each year they welcome more than 11,500 students to their district, which boasts one of the highest graduation rates in the state and is nationally ranked in nearly every measure of academic success.

In other words, the district doesn't have time to spend handling paperwork or collecting cash and check payments – they're busy helping their students succeed.

So, when they started looking for a better way to handle payments, they looked for a solution that would save their staff time and would offer self-service options to parents to bring their district closer to become paperless.

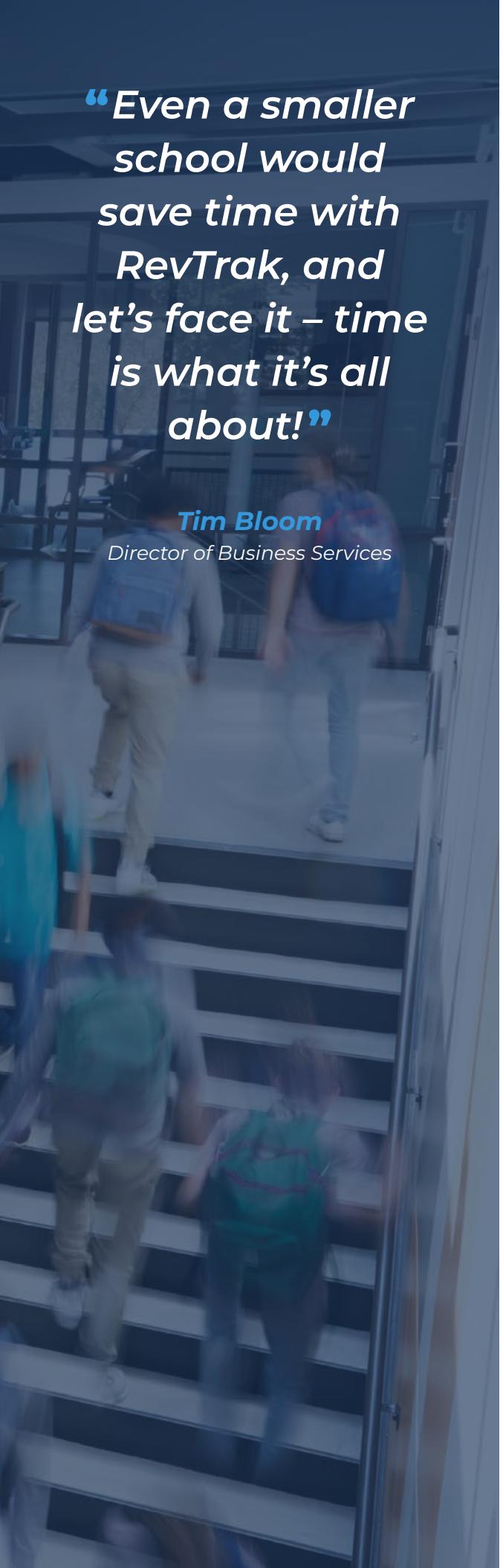
That's a pretty tall order, but RevTrak was ready to fill it.



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“The payment collection method we were using at the time was not meeting our needs, and RevTrak offered us a better product,” remembers Lora Appenzeller-Miller, Chief Financial Officer at WCSD. “Our RevTrak service representative did all the initial setup of our Web Store and any time we need something changed or added, we just make a quick call to RevTrak and they get it done.”

Asking parents to adopt new technology isn’t always easy. And thousands of students in the district, that’s a lot of parents to get on board. But that wasn’t a problem for Waukee CSD – their parents were thrilled with the convenience of online payments.

“Our parents love having the ability to pay their fees online at a time that is convenient for them and from the comfort of their own home,” says Tim Bloom, Waukee CSD’s Director of Business Services at the time. Now, years later, WCSD uses [their RevTrak Web Store](#) to collect fees for everything – from registration fees and lunch balances to athletics and transportation.

Not only has WCSD been able to move nearly all fees online, but the district has also become nearly paperless. They did this in part by moving parent communications online. Rather than sending students home with letters or flyers that would likely be forgotten at the bottom of a backpack, WCSD schools add announcements to the Web Store. This feature has saved teachers quite a bit of time.

In fact, since they began using RevTrak, the entire district has saved an incredible amount of time. Before RevTrak, manually processing payments and paperwork for WCSD was practically a full-time job. But after getting on board with RevTrak, teachers and administrators no longer spent hours every month sorting through piles of cash and checks from their thousands of students.

“There’s far fewer checks and less cash to handle, and consequently the number of bad checks we receive has been greatly reduced,” explains Lora. “Not to mention there’s more internal control,” adds Tim, “meaning less opportunity for those checks and cash to be mishandled.”

So, would Waukee CSD recommend RevTrak to other school districts looking for an online payment processor? The answer is a resounding yes!

"I can't imagine life without a Web Store from RevTrak," says Tim. "RevTrak is so easy to understand, and the customer support is fantastic. Any fee collected at the district can be put online, and it cuts down significantly on the secretarial time it takes to collect and process payments and update student accounts. It's a no-brainer; it makes life so much easier. Even a smaller school would save time with RevTrak, and let's face it – time is what it's all about!"

RevTrak can help put an end to chasing down students for fees, manually processing payments and free your teachers to spend more time on what really matters – their students.



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