

Foothill High School Successfully Engages Students Using Blended-Learning Solutions



Twin Rivers Unified School District Foothill High School

SCHOOL TYPE:
High School

- COURSE TITLES:**
- Hospital and Community Health
 - Medical Terminology
 - Medical Careers
 - Uses it every day in core courses

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Rosemary Davis.

One of the biggest challenges facing educators today is capturing and keeping students’ interest in their learning. This challenge was a reality for Rosemary Davis, a health science instructor at Foothill High School in Twin Rivers Unified School District in Sacramento, California. Then she discovered HealthCenter21.

Situation

Davis constantly struggled with students “checking out.” She knows that there is just a small window of opportunity when students will check in and listen. The challenge is to open that window a little wider and maximize that check-in time. Davis found that HealthCenter21 helped her extend and intensify her students’ engagement and investment in their learning.

Solution

For Davis, HealthCenter21 is “a terrific tool to use to change the activities in the classroom which involves them more.” And how does HealthCenter21 score on engaging students? “Because it’s visual, it’s auditory, it’s interactive, HealthCenter21 engages them much more than anything I could say. It’s a wonderful reinforcement tool. This is another way that they can interact with the material,” says Davis.

She goes on to explain that “with HealthCenter21, the kids can work at their own paces. I can set the difficulty level for them. It’s interactive; it’s not just me lecturing at them.”

When asked if she has recognized a difference in her students’ retention, Davis responds, “Yes, absolutely!” She describes how on occasion if she forgets to mention something during lecture, the students will fill it in with the knowledge they have gained from HealthCenter21. “Definitely they are feeding back to me!” That’s exciting.

Davis also greatly appreciates the fact that HealthCenter21 content is based on standards. “It goes along with the standards perfectly. When the standards are updated; it’s updated. It’s current all the time,” Davis explains.

In addition to its ability to engage students, Davis also embraces the management side of HealthCenter21. “It shows me exactly where students are and where they are struggling.” With that knowledge, Davis is able to remediate with students by resetting items in HealthCenter21 for them to do over or through class lecture or quality one-on-one time with students.

Results

HealthCenter21 has made teaching “100% easier” by engaging her students and by providing immediate feedback with ongoing assessment. Because they are engaged, Davis’ students are learning and retaining more health science knowledge, better preparing them for their careers.

Davis concludes that what her students like best about HealthCenter21 is “that it is how they relate to the world—through technology. For them it is a very natural way of interacting with information. It’s suited to them and their style of learning. It is such an engaging, wonderful tool!”

