LAMBDA
S O L U T I O N S

MULTI-CAMPUS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL INCREASES DIPLOMA COMPLETION RATE BY 20%

AUGUST 2014

AT-A-GLANCE

CUSTOMER'S BUSINESS:
Charter High School

OPPORTUNITY: Winfree Academy's blended course offering outgrew its in-house server
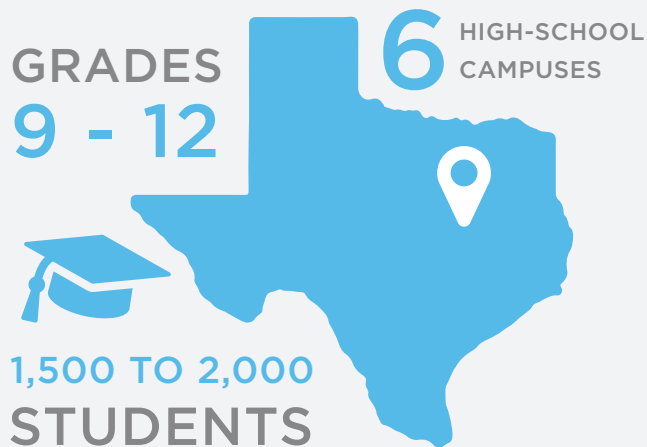
SOLUTION: Moodle hosting and expert support from Lambda Solutions

RESULTS: 60% of courses are now available on Moodle, and completion rates are up 20%

ORGANIZATION

Winfree Academy is a charter high school with six campuses in the Dallas–Fort Worth area. They offer individualized instruction to students who have not found success in the traditional school system. The school teaches 1,500 to 2,000 students a year in grades nine through twelve, many of whom face barriers to finishing their high school education.

GRADES
9 - 12

6 HIGH-SCHOOL CAMPUSES

1,500 TO 2,000
STUDENTS

❝❝ Working with Lambda has been a good experience. We always have the bandwidth we need, and we don't face glitches like we did with our in-house server. ❞❞

JACKIE ONYIA
Curriculum Coordinator
Winfree Academy

THE CHALLENGE

Winfree had begun transitioning to a blended classroom format, where students attend classroom sessions with teachers and complete online assignments and assessments on their own time.

"Traditional classroom style learning failed to help many students complete high school. We have students with pressures outside the classroom. Many have to work, or they have a baby," says Jackie Onyia, Curriculum Coordinator. "Online learning offers them flexibility. They can access the curriculum from anywhere at any time."

The transition process involved uploading written curriculum into a self-hosted Moodle learning management system (LMS). "We started off with our own, in-house server because we thought it would help us save money."

As more and more courses moved online, however, staff began facing challenges. Bandwidth was in short supply, back-end glitches became increasingly complex, and the time needed to fix problems was increasing. The school realized that to continue offering Moodle-based blended learning—and achieve the level of flexibility that was helping their students succeed—they needed more reliable hosting and expert support.

THE SOLUTION

Winfree Academy brought in Lambda Solutions to replace the unreliable in-house server with cloud-based hosting. "Working with Lambda has been a good experience," says Onyia, "We always have the bandwidth we need, and we don't face glitches like we did with our own servers."

Onyia explained that, "Lambda's expert support team has also been critical in getting upwards of 60% of the course content on Moodle. Lambda works around our needs and circumstances. For example, we were running an older release of Moodle and began facing some technical problems. We weren't ready for the new version yet, so Lambda helped us find a workaround solution that let us do what we needed—without being forced to upgrade".

RESULTS

20%

Increased Course Completions

The rate of students completing their courses has definitely increased - with 20% more people completing in the same time frame before Winfree moved to Lambda. "The learning flexibility that Moodle allows, along with the dependability Lambda's managed hosting gives us, really make all the difference," says Onyia.

Open Source Cost Savings

While Winfree looked at other learning management systems, their IT department recognized that open source Moodle would provide them with more flexibility and ease of use than much more expensive proprietary LMS's, like Blackboard. "We'd rather allocate our money to our students and Lambda makes it possible to do just that," concludes Onyia.

ABOUT LAMBDA SOLUTIONS

Exceptional Support has made Lambda Solutions a leader in Moodle Managed Hosting and Professional Services. We believe that support is a critical component to any successful implementation and use of any technology. Since 2002, we have helped many organizations deliver great eLearning experiences. We combine offerings in managed hosting, application support services, development and integration expertise, as well as training to customers in Education, Corporate Training, Healthcare and Government. Lambda Solutions is an official partner of Moodle, the world's leading Open Source Learning Management System.

Contact our team

We want to talk to you if you're looking for reliable Moodle or Totara hosting and support, or if you need customization and consulting for your existing system. Our solutions combine a choice of robust hosting platforms, seamless integration with your enterprise applications and friendly, easy to access support.

TOLL FREE	+1.877.700.1118
EMAIL	info@lambdasolutions.net
RESOURCES	lambdasolutions.net/moodle-resources
CONTACT US	lambdasolutions.net/contact-us

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