



## Diocese of Arlington Uses Scantron Assessment Solutions to Identify Growth

Teachers and administrators now receive immediate and meaningful student data that they can use for planning, for marketing, and for monitoring progress.

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington school system serves private school students in Virginia. Academic highlights include:

- **100% graduation rate**
- **99% of students advance to post-secondary education**
- **In 2017, students received more than \$6.72M in scholarships**

This high-performing district was looking to move to an even higher level of efficiency and data-driven instructional culture.

### Yesterday...

The Diocese of Arlington wanted to move away from testing only once a year for identifying student growth and achievement in Reading, Math, and Language Arts. They found that when they only tested in April, they did not receive scores until June, and could not discuss adjustments and plans to support students until August.

Such an extended assessment results schedule meant that crucial data was not available during the current school year. This year's teachers didn't get information fast enough, and the information wasn't sufficiently relevant for next year's teacher, leaving student scores in a kind of limbo.

"Our data was not looked at carefully because it was dated by the time teachers received it," says Dr. Leslie Lipovski, Coordinator of Curriculum for the Catholic Diocese of Arlington.

The diocese needed to be able to adjust instruction to support student achievement more immediately. Further, they needed to provide professional development to support a shift to a data-driven, evidence-based culture. They needed to communicate better with students and parents, and they needed to simplify data connections between their testing solution and their student information system.

**Enter Scantron assessment solutions, implementation team, and professional development consultants.**

### Today...

The Diocese of Arlington is now in its third year of using Performance Series for growth testing in Reading, Mathematics, and Language Arts. All 37 of its schools test several times a year and receive immediate testing results.

"We're working with our teachers on implementing our growth culture," says Lipovski. "We're setting SMART goals, informed by test results, because we can now see growth throughout the year."

**"We get fast, efficient scoring that we can use to drive classroom improvements."**

**Dr. Leslie Lipovski**, *Coordinator of Curriculum*





The diocese uses Performance Series Suggested Learning Objectives to set goals for teachers and students based on the SMART goal-setting system developed by George T. Doran. The system creates goals that are specific, measurable, assignable, realistic, and time-related, so students can work toward concrete objectives.

Performance Series helps identify individual starting points, so that goals are based on a student's current personal level of achievement. Students use Fall testing to set their goals, then review in May based on their Spring testing to identify progress.

"Sharing results with students is great because they can have buy-in," states Lipovski. "We can share these results easily because Scantron delivers fast, efficient scoring that we can use to drive classroom improvements."

The diocese has added Scantron Achievement Series® to start developing exams for students in World Language courses. This new exam will help students who have mastered beginning Spanish, French, and Latin in grades 7-8 to demonstrate that mastery as they move into high school. Using these results, students will be able to immediately take level two of Spanish, French, or Latin without having to repeat material they already know.

In addition to testing solutions, Scantron provides client program management, implementation, and professional development services to help teachers and the diocese succeed.

"Scantron's professional services team have been supportive and have provided excellent resolution to the few issues we've encountered," notes Lipovski. "We almost feel like they're part of our system, rather than an outside vendor—they just do what needs to be done."

## Tomorrow...

The diocese has made great progress developing programs to support struggling students and is looking to adapt those programs to further support high-achieving students, as well.

"It's important to identify and challenge high-performing students," says Lipovski. "We plan to start exploring the ways that Scantron assessment solutions can help them achieve and show even more growth and stay motivated to succeed."

Scantron is pleased and proud to support the Diocese of Arlington and its students.



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