

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT:

Burkburnett Independent School District (TX)

Using Techbook to Bring Learning to Life

With more than 3,400 students in a town of barely 10,000 residents, the Burkburnett Independent School District has become a destination for local students and transfers alike.

The reason is simple, says Dr. Missy Mayfield, Burkburnett's director of curriculum: A progressive approach to education with a family orientation.

"When you're here it feels like home," she said.

Neighboring the Red River along the Texas and Oklahoma border and about a two-and-a-half-hour drive northwest of Dallas, Burkburnett features a 1-to-1 student-to-device ratio. Mayfield has worked to equip the district's students with the right digital learning aids, but too many solutions, she said, were simply textbooks resized for tablets.

Instead, she wanted something the students could interact with that takes the information found in textbooks, but presents it in a new way to engage students. That's when she came across Discovery Education's Techbook.

"Techbook is approaching learning the way it should be approached," Mayfield said.

Burkburnett adopted Science Techbook for seventh and eighth grades and Science and Social Studies Techbook for high school students.

Mayfield enjoys the way students interact with Techbook, saying the product engaged students from the get-go. She also liked how Techbook highlighted vocabulary words for each subject, a key component in learning that helped the district improve on its state test scores.

The students took right to the content, she said.

"The kids don't have to adapt to this kind of learning," Mayfield said. "They've used technology like this to learn outside of school their whole lives. It's the rest of us who need to adapt to make sure students get the most out of it." Students: 3,400 Race/Ethnicity: White (69%) African-American (6.8%) Hispanic (16%) Two or more: (5%) Asian (1%) FARMS*: 51%

*Percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals

"Techbook incorporates real-life experiential learning, allowing students to work out answers to problems in their own way with Techbook serving as a guide."

Dr. Missy Mayfield
Director of Curriculum
Burkburnett Independent School District



Learn how Discovery Education Techbook can improve student outcomes in your school district.

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