

Case Study

SchoolStatus Boost Helps Wahoo Educators Drive Their Own Professional Learning

Just as school districts endeavor to create the best possible learning outcomes for their students, they also must dedicate time and focus on the development of educators and support staff. Comprehensive educator development and reporting tools like SchoolStatus Boost can help districts of any size guide teacher performance and growth.

Wahoo Public Schools



Challenge

Streamline observations



District Size

1,069 students



Location

Wahoo, NE



Products Used

SchoolStatus Boost

Observations



☆ Goals

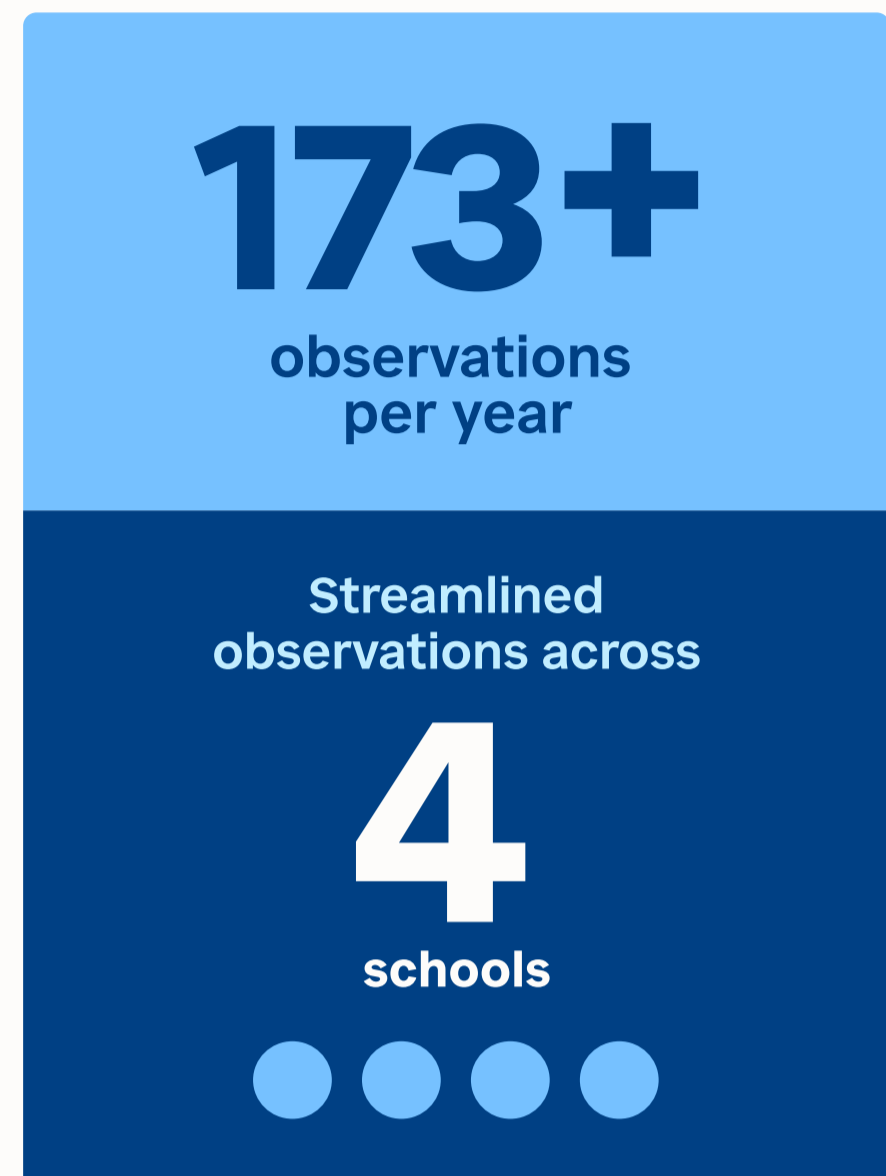
Rachel Chen
3rd Grade

Observation Period:
School Year: 2023 - 2024
Semester: 3rd

A District Focused On Learning, For Everyone

Wahoo is a small, rural district in Nebraska that serves over one thousand PreK-12 students. There's a strong sense of connection to the rich history and heritage of the town and a deep commitment to offering a high-quality education.

"Wahoo is deeply committed to supporting our teachers, and that means providing timely and actionable feedback to support their individual learning and growth goals," shared the Director of Learning at Wahoo Public Schools, Josh Snyder. "But we didn't have a system to support our process and objectives. Enter [SchoolStatus Boost]."



The Goal: Provide Educators with Differentiated Feedback and Professional Learning Experiences

Wahoo wanted a growth-focused feedback tool that was proactive and collaborative, not a burden. Their goal was to provide timely coaching to staff and teachers that was constructive, goal-oriented, and responsive. Before SchoolStatus Boost, the district was using a Google form-based system to conduct evaluations aligned with the Marzano Instructional Framework.

In this framework, instructional leaders provide feedback on all 43 elements. The Google form-based system was too static to keep up with the dynamic dialogue needed for high-impact, differentiated educator development.

Wahoo's use of the Marzano Framework also requires a standards-based system in every classroom, a focus on student results with leading indicators, and quick access to resources to respond to educator needs and scaffold instruction. This proved extremely difficult with Google Forms.

The Challenge

Uneven Tracking and Lack of Coherence at the District Level

Wahoo did not have a central platform for their observation and coaching work. The outputs from informal and formal observations were nearly impossible to track at the district level.

Snyder shared that they, "needed a flexible and customizable tool that would allow every educator in the system to be able to get or give feedback aligned to their instructional model." Wahoo was committed to helping every educator grow in their role, with each employee receiving a minimum of seven informal observations throughout the year.

Snyder worked with the district team to pilot several tools. The decision to move forward with SchoolStatus Boost was unanimous: it was simple to use and it stored every coaching conversation across the district. The data capabilities allowed instructional leaders to find gaps in informal walkthroughs, analyze data trends, provide timely feedback to educators, and differentiate educator learning supports.

"We are making a huge shift in our thinking and planning for professional learning opportunities," shared Snyder. "We now think about each educator and what they need, much like we ask teachers to differentiate."

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**-Josh Snyder, Director of Learning,
Wahoo Public Schools**



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3rd Grade

☆ Goals

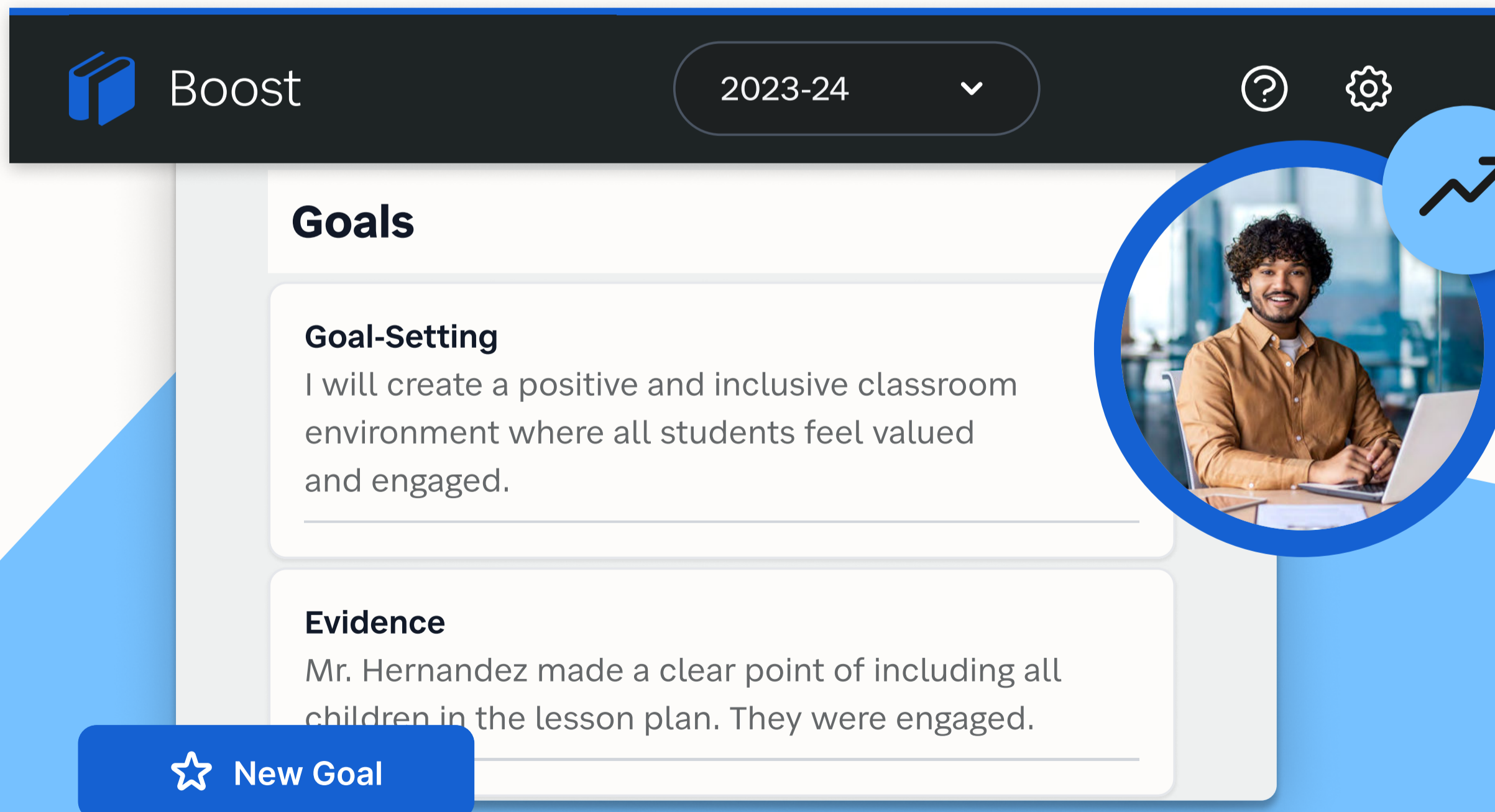
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The Outcomes

Moving Towards Differentiated Professional Learning Opportunities for Every Educator

Wahoo now centralizes all aspects of its coaching program and educator development on the SchoolStatus Boost platform, from walkthroughs to summatives. The district uses SchoolStatus Boost to customize the observation and educator development process based on existing frameworks. Observations are specific, actionable, and educator-driven. Educators take ownership in their learning and goal-setting.

"Whether we are conducting informal walkthroughs or year-end evaluations, every learning and growth touchpoint can be found in one place," shared Snyder. Wahoo instructional leaders are now able to provide clear action steps, ongoing supportive feedback, and valuable career development resources in one platform. "[SchoolStatus Boost] has played a huge role in our continuous learning and coaching process, which has led to the observed professional growth of our teachers."



The screenshot displays the SchoolStatus Boost user interface. At the top, there is a dark navigation bar with the 'Boost' logo on the left, a dropdown menu for the school year '2023-24', and icons for help and settings. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is titled 'Goals'. Under this heading, there is a 'Goal-Setting' section with the text: 'I will create a positive and inclusive classroom environment where all students feel valued and engaged.' Below the goal, there is an 'Evidence' section with the text: 'Mr. Hernandez made a clear point of including all children in the lesson plan. They were engaged.' A blue circular callout on the right side of the interface features a photo of a smiling man with curly hair sitting at a desk with a laptop, and a blue arrow icon pointing upwards and to the right. At the bottom left of the interface, there is a blue button with a white star icon and the text 'New Goal'.

Achieving High-Impact Educator Development

Wahoo Public Schools needed a customizable observation tool that worked with its existing frameworks and provided real-time data on progress. Since streamlining observations with SchoolStatus Boost, Wahoo has strengthened its overall program to create growth mindsets and achieve high-impact, differentiated educator development.



To learn more about how SchoolStatus Boost can streamline and strengthen your educator development process, contact our team.

[Learn More](#)