

CASE STUDY

Families Find Consistency and Support When a Primary School Simplifies Its Communication System

In 2020, Chartiers Valley Primary School, a public primary school located in Bridgeville, Pennsylvania, employed a staggered instructional schedule to ensure that all students received an adequate, safe education during the COVID-19 pandemic. During this year of immense upheaval, managing this instructional model proved to be time-consuming and inefficient and interfered with educators' ability to provide educational consistency. CVPS turned to SchoolStatus Connect to streamline communication across instructional platforms and ensure that students and their families had access to the same, high-quality information and resources.

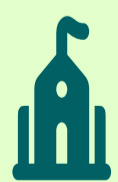


CHARTIERS VALLEY
SCHOOL DISTRICT | *Inspiring excellence.*



Challenge

Streamline Communication & Attendance Management



District Size

16 Schools
7,000 K-12 Students



Products Used

SchoolStatus Connect

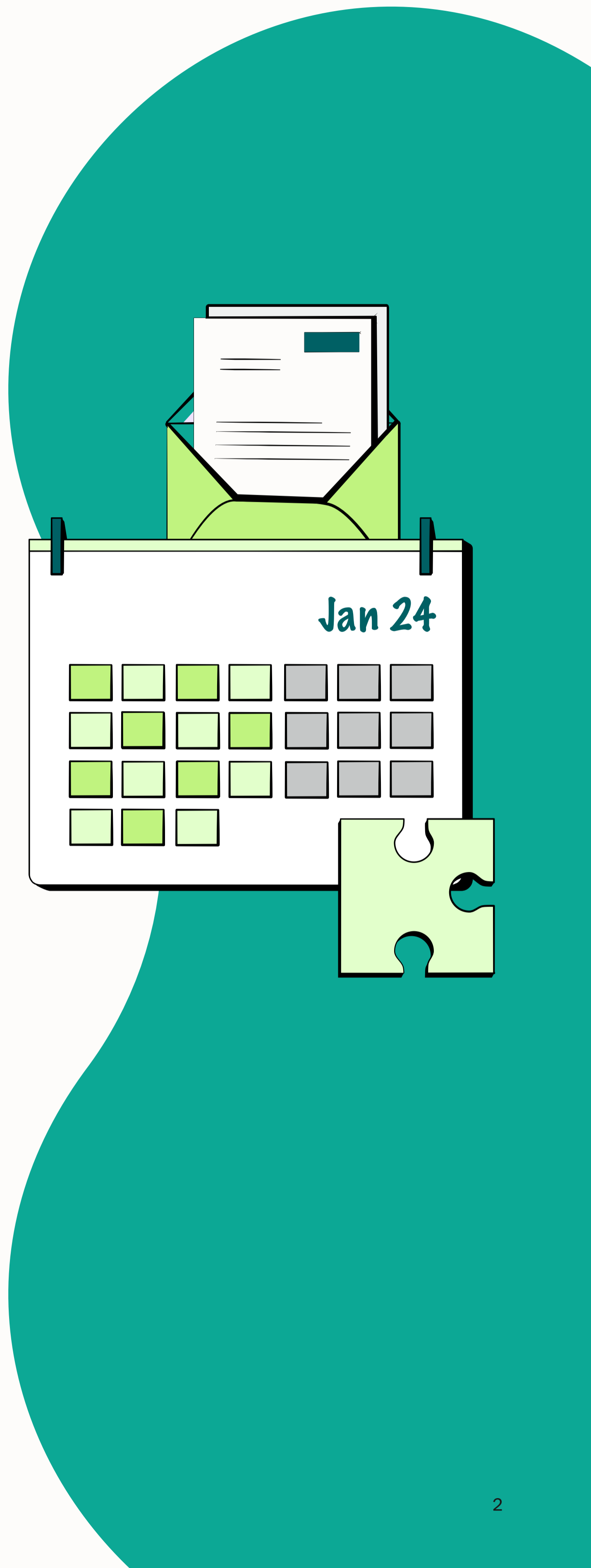


Challenges

After the unexpected onset of the pandemic, first-grade teacher Ellen Zissis had to make adjustments to instructional models to ensure that students received adequate support and instruction. But the tools she was working with were less than ideal.

Zissis was managing students on a “two days on, one day off” system, where students received in-person instruction twice a week, engaged in remote learning two days a week, and were given Fridays off. Understandably, families and educators had a hard time keeping up with the confusing, hybrid schedule.

Prior to COVID-19, Zissis said she communicated with parents once weekly on average, but with the revised staggered schedules and potential for disruption, Zissis said she felt it was more important to over-communicate all the information parents and students needed to know. So she made a point to keep parents up to date on their students’ progress every day.



Solution

When Superintendent Dr. Rob Brown joined Lumpkin County School District in 2016, he made parent communication a central component of the district's strategic plan. "When we developed our school system strategic plan, we wanted to include the necessary components that would help every student in our district have an avenue for success," says Superintendent Dr. Robert Brown. "Because we believed that Parent and Community Engagement was such a critical piece, it became one of the four pillars of our plan.



Zissis said that a key part of SchoolStatus Connect's effectiveness is that parents can use it in a way that works best for them, including downloading the app to their cell phones. "If I get a text, I'll look at it right away. If I get an email, I might miss it. The fact that parents can customize how they get messages so they see them right away is amazing."

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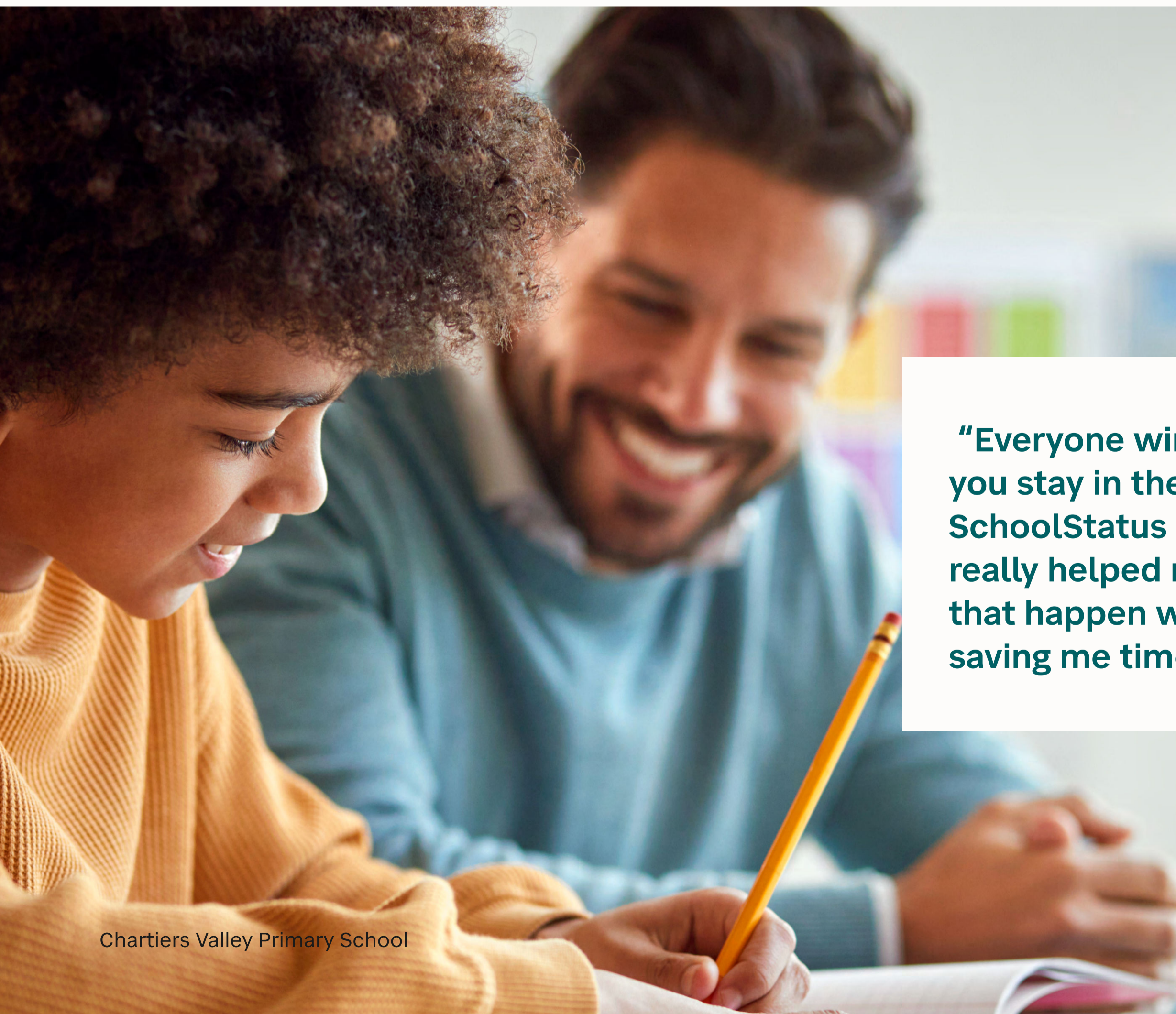
Ellen Zissis,
First-grade teacher

Outcomes

As of the 202-21 school year, 100% of families at CVPS connected to educators' classrooms to receive regular communications using SchoolStatus Connect. Zissis said she appreciated seeing how grateful families were to be able to engage in streamlined, clear communication.

She said SchoolStatus Connect was an effective organizational tool for students. As an example, before her students went home after in-person learning, she took photos of their papers and then shared them with family members through the SchoolStatus Connect platform. The next day, if one of her students forgot or lost their homework, they could recover the papers and hand assignments in on time.

"Everyone wins when you stay in the loop, and SchoolStatus Connect really helped me make that happen while also saving me time," said Zissis.



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Conclusion

By implementing SchoolStatus Connect's all-in-one communication platform, students were able to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic in ways that minimized disruption to student learning and streamlined family-teacher communication.

During a time of great uncertainty, SchoolStatus offered the school community a vital way for families to stay engaged in their students' learning.



**See how
SchoolStatus can
help your district
engage families**

[Request a Demo](#)