

**RIGHT AT SCHOOL & BEAVERCREEK CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT • BEAVERCREEK, OH**



CASE STUDY



Expanding Before & After School Programs While Reducing Administrative Headaches for School Leaders



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KID!**





Expanding Before and After School Programs While **Reducing** Administrative Headaches for School Leaders.

Launching and managing before and after school programs can create administrative burdens for district and school leaders. In January 2019 when Beaver Creek City School District (BCSD) set out to provide more robust child care options for families, district leaders wanted to find a way to make the transition as smooth as possible.

"At the time, we had a partnership with the YMCA for an after school program at two of our six elementary schools," said Paul Otten, superintendent of BCSD. "We also had a self-run daycare for the children of district staff. It was housed in the school near our transportation compound so kids could take the bus there."

"We were looking for a partner who could take on many of the managerial responsibilities for before and after school care so the burden would not be placed on our principals," said Bobbie Fiori, director of student services for BCSD.

"Right At School's customer service, support, and follow-through are what led us to move forward with them. They impressed us with their professionalism, communication, and consistency."

BCSD partnered with Right At School to offer before and after school care in all six of its elementary schools beginning in fall 2019.

Offering the program to families is part of the district's commitment to providing safe, engaging, and meaningful in-school extracurricular programs to enrich the lives of students, give parents peace of mind, and enable schools to continue to focus on their academic mission.

CHALLENGES

- Inflexible after school program
- Limited number of locations

SOLUTIONS

- Right At School
- Before and after school programs

Grade Levels

- K-5

Increasing equity & attendance.

“Previously, we had to bus some kids to other school buildings for after school care. Parents also chose daycare based on which centers served their child’s school, so there were intra-district transfer requests, too,” said Fiori. “With Right At School, we’re now able to provide the same opportunities at every elementary school so kids don’t have to be transferred or transported somewhere else. It provides more equity among our schools.”

“Attendance in the after school program has increased with Right At School,” said Otten.



Creating a smooth transition.

“The implementation of Right At School went really smoothly,” said Fiori. “The principals worked well with the Right At School director and lead teacher in their building to get things set up. We had a parent forum with representatives from Right At School who explained the program and answered questions. We posted information on our website and provided a link to allow parents to write in with questions and get answers. We had information at kindergarten registration. We sent emails to parents. There was a lot of advance preparation, and that’s what made it successful.”

“We also work with the Right At School staff to provide training so they can be consistent with our behavior management practices and safety procedures. We teach them our programs and strategies so they have the same expectations for our students and it’s a natural progression from the classroom to Right At School.”



RESULTS

- ✓ Increased equity
- ✓ Increased attendance
- ✓ Improved student behavior and safety
- ✓ Positive feedback from parents

Eliminating administrative headaches.

Right At School has eliminated administrative headaches for school and district leaders by handling all aspects of program implementation, including the structure, curriculum, and highly-trained staff. "Right At School is very low maintenance. It runs itself, so it's low stress for building administrators, which allows them to focus on students and student achievement," said Fiori.

"Before Right At School, our principals were required to have more oversight over the after school programs," said Otten. "Now, our school administrators don't worry about the programs because they are run so well. They say Right At School has been great for them."



Any time you start something new, there are headaches and frustrations, but we have not experienced that with Right At School. Not one complaint has come across my desk. Everyone loves it.

— Paul Otten, Superintendent

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Providing flexibility for families.

In BCSD, Right At School gives the parents of K-5 students flexible, affordable options ranging from one to five days a week, including morning or afternoon programs or both. It also offers discounts for military families, siblings, families who qualify for free or reduced lunches, and district staff.

"Parents like that there is flexibility to meet their work schedules. They don't have to sign up for five days a week. They can do one day a week or do a punch card," said Fiori. "They also appreciate that we can provide care during teacher in-service days or when school is closed over winter break."

Improving student behavior and safety.

Right At School's Disguised Learning™ preK-8 curriculum supports learning standards in English language arts, literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, social emotional learning (SEL), the arts, physical fitness, and service learning. Multi-sensory, multi-intelligence activities spark a joy for learning and encourage the development of 21st century skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, creativity, and leadership.

"Parents say the Right At School curriculum is really engaging, it promotes creative thinking, and their kids like it. It also allows kids to have a choice in activities, based on their interests," said Fiori. "When kids are engaged and have structure, they behave better."

Right At School has improved student safety as well. "Before, at some elementary schools, there would be 12 little white busses waiting outside to take students to different daycares," said Otten. "Now they can stay at the school in the neighborhood where they live, and their parents can pick them up on their way home. Parents like that their kids can stay in a safe environment and that they no longer have to get on a bus to go someplace else."

Sharing revenue.

Right At School provides its enrichment programs at no cost to a district and even shares revenue back with the district. "We use half of the money from the revenue sharing to offset costs for things like heat and electricity during those times. We use the other half to provide scholarships so if a family is struggling financially, we can help fund before and after school care for their child," said Otten.

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— Bobbie Fiori, Director of Student Services





Making parents and staff **happy.**

Six months after rolling out the before and after school programs, Otten and Fiori say they've received nothing but positive feedback from parents and school staff.

"Any time you start something new, there are headaches and frustrations, but we have not experienced that with Right At School," said Otten.

"When we started, I thought there would be some complaints just because you can't make everyone happy, but I haven't had one parent call and say anything negative about Right At School. The only parents who have talked to me about it say their kids really enjoy it. Our staff love it, too," said Fiori.

"Right At School been a very positive experience for our families, and we continue to see the before and after school programs growing," said Otten. "It's been a nice addition to provide this service to families, and the service is high quality. It's meeting the needs of parents and our community."

District Data

11 schools
Grades preK-12
8,200 students
www.gocreek.org

Student Demographics

- 6.8% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 3.5% Black/African American
- 3.9% Hispanic
- 4.5% Multiracial
- 81.2% White
- 13.2% Free/reduced lunch

