Expanding foreign language credit offerings

Challenges
Raleigh County Schools located in Beckley, West Virginia wanted an online language-learning program to expand their world language offerings throughout the district. Due to a shortage of qualified personnel for direct instruction, the district looked to leverage technology along with qualified staff to continue offering existing language programs as well as to expand language choice beyond traditional world language offerings. The district needed a world language option that would fit into the district’s already embedded technology initiative, iRaleigh. iRaleigh is a one-to-one technology initiative, providing iPads to all students in grades 3–12. Last, the district needed a program that would support both independent study and blended-learning environments through personalized study.

Implementation
In 2012, Raleigh County implemented a program for independent study and blended-learning environments using the Rosetta Stone® Language Lessons Version 3 (formerly Rosetta Course®) solution to provide:

• Growth of existing language offerings for credit study
• Individualized, personalized instruction accessible via the iPad
• Program utilization by students of 30–90 minutes per session, four times per week
• Facilitated direct instruction with focus on culture, climate, and geography
• Ability to obtain two-credit language course requirement plus expand to additional language for elective credit

Benefits
Raleigh County realized several benefits as a result of the Rosetta Stone® implementation, including:

• Ability to satisfy state foreign language requirement for graduation
• Effectively leveraged faculty resources to fill instructional requirements for credit offerings
• Expanded language choice for students
• Utilized iPad® instructional model in support of iRaleigh initiative

“Rosetta Stone has helped deliver on our mission in making a difference, one student at a time through the flexibility and personalized study the program provides.”

Kenny Moles
Assistant Superintendent
Raleigh County Schools

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Leveraging technology
Raleigh County understands the need to leverage technology to deliver effective instruction. Through the iRaleigh technology initiative across the district, students in grades 3-12 are provided an iPad to use in their daily learning. This one-to-one program issues every student an iPad, personalized for their own use, whether in the classroom or at home. For K-2 students, a two-to-one program is available. The district offers teachers professional development on the use of this technology in the classroom to increase the effectiveness of the adoption. Through the implementation of the Rosetta Stone® solution, students are able to leverage this technology to meet the two-credit world language requirement of the state for study in a single language. Once the requirement is satisfied, students have the option to study an additional language for elective credit. The district was able to expand existing offerings as well as increase the number of languages available in support of increased global competency of students upon graduation.

Supported requirement
The program at Raleigh County provided a technology solution to build language skills. With the Rosetta Stone solution, students:

- Leveraged iPad® technology to acquire language, personalized to students’ needs
- Met language requirement needs despite lack of qualified personnel for direct instruction
- Created language choice beyond traditional language offerings
- Provided the foundation required for facilitators to expand instruction
- Offered flexibility for anywhere, anytime study

Filling the gaps
Raleigh County has a shortage of certified world language teachers. However, the district still needs to meet the foreign language requirement defined by the state. Understanding the role technology can play in delivering instruction, the district implemented the Rosetta Stone solution to help meet this requirement. Students are required to work in the solution four days per week, with time on task at 30 minutes per session for Middle School students and 90 minutes per session for High School students. Every course is assigned a faculty facilitator who oversees the progress made in each program; ensuring minimum scores are being achieved on activities. In addition, direct instruction by the facilitator is provided on culture, climate, and the geography of the language studied. Through the blending of technology and classroom facilitation, state requirements are achieved and students are able to obtain world language credit.

“\nThe Rosetta Stone solution has allowed us to further utilize technology as a learning tool, and with our existing faculty resources we are able to meet our world language requirements, plus so much more.\n”

Kenny Moles, Assistant Superintendent
Raleigh County Schools

Raleigh County is located in southern West Virginia approximately 60 miles from the state capital of Charleston. The school district is comprised of 29 schools, including four high schools, five middle schools, 19 elementary schools and one career-technical center. It ranks as the fifth largest school district in the state with a student population of more than 12,000. Raleigh County Schools are focused on tailoring curriculum and instruction to meet the needs of all students. Schools within the district have earned state and national recognition for meeting and maintaining rigorous standards.

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About Rosetta Stone
Rosetta Stone is a global leader in technology-driven language and learning solutions for individuals, classrooms, and entire organizations.

Our scalable, interactive solutions have been used by over 12,000 businesses, 9,000 public sector organizations, and 22,000 education institutions worldwide, and by millions of learners in over 150 countries.