

Case Study

School District of Osceola County, Florida





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The School District of Osceola County, located in Central Florida, is home to 52 schools with 61,736 students from 100 different countries and maintains a graduation rate above the state average.

The Facilities Divisions is responsible for all construction projects that includes renovations and new construction. On any given day, the Facilities Division manages over 150 active projects and has completed/closed over 1,300 projects since going live with Trimble Unity Construct in 2010.

“ The Trimble Unity Construct Project Management Information Solution has exceeded our expectations. From kicking the project off with the Professional Services team to training and roll out, Trimble Unity Construct has been a true partner, and having the ability to custom develop processes around our organization ‘as needed’ is invaluable.

- Dan Olson, Construction Systems Analyst,
The School District of Osceola County, Florida





Challenges

- Prior to Trimble Unity Construct, capital projects were managed in a Microsoft Access Database.
- A great deal of time was spent extracting specific data from the database and correlating it into reports in order to gain status, updates, and risk assessment of projects, and to plan for future projects.
- Project timelines were not reliable; by the time the data was extracted and distributed, much of the information was outdated.
- Processes for change orders, purchase order and contract requests, payment requests, etc. varied project by project, lacking consistency, visibility and accountability of where any step was in the process.
- Contract development, management, and renewals was a tedious paper-driven process.
- Request for purchase orders was paper-driven and a very time consuming process.
- Construction-related processes were managed primarily by the design and construction professionals that contracted with the School Board.
- The permit application process was cumbersome; it was a manual process and did not provide for an audit trail of a project's progress, tracking of recent application/diagrams, feedback on the project or where it stood in the process. In addition, plan review communication for District staff was managed by emailing/faxing documents or driving them from department to department.

PROFILE

The Osceola County Facilities Division is responsible for managing a capital program that supports the design and construction services for the School District, which includes:

- A new high school with a construction value of \$75 million projected to open in August 2019.
- A two-story building addition for a high school that was completed in September 2017.
- As of August 2017, the District has contracted with design and construction firms for the following projects:
 - comprehensive renovation of an elementary school – complete 2019.
 - comprehensive renovation of a middle school – complete 2019.
 - construction of a new middle school – complete 2019.
 - construction of a 500-student station STEM High School – complete 2019.



Solution

- With Trimble Unity Construct, the Facilities Division was able to centralize and streamline the management and retention of construction project documents, drastically improving the communications that are necessary to track project data.
- A document filing system was defined, and any file type can easily be searched using keywords.
- Workflow processes were defined and implemented, mitigating delays and providing real-time communication to the project team; to-date, there are over 50 custom processes and workflows for all project phases.
- Sharing and updating information related to the managers' daily activities is seamless because access to the system is available through any web-enabled device; thus, in the field or in the office data is updated in real-time.
- The Plan Review and Permit Application Process has been built into Trimble Unity Construct allowing staff to quickly and efficiently process plan review and permit application requests by providing District staff, the design team, the health safety team, and the Building and Fire Officials immediate access to all requests and related information.



Since implementing **Trimble Unity Construct**, the Osceola County School District has had complete transparency for each project—down to specific line items—and it is able to hold people and teams accountable for project details, budgets and timelines. The Business Intelligence Module's project tracking schedule allows for easy access to the scheduling details of any project, at any time.



Results

Trimble Unity Construct Business Analysts worked alongside the Osceola County School District team to define, develop, implement, and train personnel in the Facilities and Maintenance Departments.

It is true that some staff were apprehensive with the introduction of this technology, but over time they later realized the many benefits of the Trimble Unity Construct Project Management Solution. Today, the Finance and Purchasing Departments receive informative automatic notices that keeps their teams up to date with the processing of requests. Over 100 users now use Trimble Unity Construct to update project data, submit design and construction-related requests, obtain project status, and effectively manage the overall Capital Program. The departments that benefit from the use of the Trimble Unity Construct Project Management solution include:

- The Facilities Division, including Design and Construction Services, Planning Services, and Energy Services.
- The Information Services Department.
- The Maintenance Department.
- The School Operations Department, including the Health/Safety, Security, and Building Departments.
- The Finance and Purchasing Departments (receive automatic notifications).
- All K-12 schools submit project requests using Trimble Unity Construct via a “public” page on the School District Website.

With **Trimble Unity Construct's Reports Module**, the Trimble Unity Construct users have been able to create many easily accessible reports that allow for immediate viewing, providing information about the many project processes and milestone schedules.

Start Your Free Demo Tour.

The best way to understand how Trimbe Unity Construct can transform your capital program management is to see it for yourself.

Visit assetlifecycle.trimble.com or call 800.580.9322

START YOUR FREE DEMO

About Trimble

Dedicated to the world's tomorrow, Trimble is a technology company delivering solutions that enable our customers to work in new ways to measure, build, grow and move goods for a better quality of life. Core technologies in positioning, modeling, connectivity and data analytics connect the digital and physical worlds to improve productivity, quality, safety, transparency and sustainability. From purpose-built products and enterprise lifecycle solutions to industry cloud services, Trimble is transforming critical industries such as construction, geospatial, agriculture and transportation to power an interconnected world of work.