

magazine

Helping children to achieve their potential is your job—helping you to be more organized and have more time to do it, is ours.



NACSA 2008

For the second year in a row Corporate Computer will be a Gold Sponsor for the NACSA conference in Indianapolis. We will be demonstrating AOIS—booth number coming soon! We are also excited to announce several new activities at the conference:

The first AOIS Users Group will take place in Indianapolis! We will host a breakfast on Monday, October 27th from 7:30am to 8:30am for all existing AOIS Users. We want to start the users group to provide guidance for our developers as we continue to expand our services in the future. If you use AOIS and haven't received an invitation yet, call Meghann Murphy, AOIS Coach at (616) 988-3215.

We have also scheduled a Learning Lab during the Grab 'N' Go lunch, on Monday, October 27th. Please join us for a panel discussion with Theda Sampson, Compliance Officer at The Thomas B. Fordham Foundation, Peter Tschaeppe, Coordinator of Accountability Compliance and Finance at Ball State University Office of Charter Schools, Mindy Britton, Compliance Auditor/Board Liaison at Ferris State University Charter Schools Office, and Frank Stoy, Community School Consultant at Lucas County Educational Service Center. Terry Ryan, Vice President for Ohio Programs and Policy at The Thomas B. Fordham Foundation will be the moderator. Terry will be asking questions on reasons why they chose to use AOIS, what benefits they have gained using AOIS, and what they would tell someone else about AOIS.

Each attendee will receive a ticket and who knows, you may win a valuable (or not so valuable) prize! Please look for our Learning Lab session on the NACSA Conference Agenda during Monday's Grab 'N' Go Lunch. We hope to see you there!

If you have any questions regarding Corporate Computer activities taking place at NACSA 2008, please contact Meghann Murphy at (616) 988-3215.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Chicago International Charter Schools (CICS) Streamlines Oversight with AOIS 2
- AOIS Document Downloading Tip 2
- Implementing Technology Successfully 3
- OAPCS Annual Conference 3

SEPTEMBER 2008

Make this the year that you "get it under control!"

2008

- How many times have you heard State politicians call for "more charter school oversight"? It's easy to continually call for more oversight—it's much harder to prove your actions are consistent, measured and applied equally to all schools. If you want to start your next school year firmly in control of a proven oversight program that documents every compliance action, provides an easy-to-use user interface and has been audited by multiple State Auditor Generals and declared a "Gold Standard" call us now.

Compliance

AOIS tracks the compliance status of each school authorized, and reports this instantly in a graphical interface that is easy to use.

Electronic Filing

AOIS is also an electronic filing system, so every document associated with schools is immediately available and can be accessed from any location.

Workflow

AOIS also incorporates a workflow system that informs employees when it is time to perform a specific task, and flows documents from employee to employee electronically, ensuring the work is done consistently among all schools.

Performance

AOIS also includes a performance module that tracks and reports student and school achievement.

Why AOIS?

Chicago International Charter Schools (CICS) Streamlines Oversight with AOIS

Chicago International Charter Schools, a multi-site charter school with 12 schools underneath them, streamlined their oversight process over 2 years ago by implementing AOIS. Erin Lanoue, Associate Director at CICS, stated “compliance was taking more and more of our time, becoming very cumbersome.”

AOIS has allowed CICS to have all of their requirements in one place where schools access the same information as CICS and they do not have to manually send out reminders, print off forms and file them in individual school binders. AOIS gives CICS a piece of mind knowing that each school receives advanced email notifications when something is due, this eliminates CICS from having to manually send out email reminders ahead of time.

AOIS continues to keep CICS schools accountable and now there is no excuse if something is not completed on time or accurately. AOIS provides CICS with one site where all related parties can go to, to track compliance and share information; it takes the guesswork out of compliance.



Expectations

There are four levels of customer expectations today. As a services supplier, we can only advance to the next level once we have completely fulfilled your expectations at the prior level.

The first level is accuracy. How long would you stay with your bank if they consistently made errors in the balance of your accounts? The information we present within AOIS must be accurate.

The second level of expectation is availability. Today 7x24 access to information is the norm. Corporate Computer has been in this model since 2001 with 99.99% availability.

The third level of expectation is partnership. Once a client is comfortable that the AOIS information is accurate and they have experienced the four nine's availability, we can talk about partnership. This usually means joint exploration of new data to collect and new ways to present it. The AOIS user community has been open to sharing solutions developed by one client with other AOIS clients.

The fourth level of expectation is advice. We feel we have just started to reach this level with some of our clients. In one case, we have proposed temporary outsourcing of Compliance Officer responsibilities to Corporate Computer. We will provide oversight to all schools for a defined period of time until a new Compliance Officer is hired and trained. This level demands a high degree of trust and responsibility from our team as well as the client.

If you'd like to discuss this in more detail, call Larry Brannan at (616) 988-3202.

AOIS Document Downloading Tip

When downloading a document from the Documents Dashboard in AOIS, the length of time to download depends on the size of the document. Such documents as contracts, applications and insurance policies that contain many pages are larger and will take longer to download. Instead of downloading the entire document, users also have the ability to download only sections that are needed from the document. This feature, already available to users helps reduce the downloading time. Here are the steps:

- 1) Go to the Documents Dashboard and open up the document. If the document appears in the image viewer (Tiff) go directly to step 2.
- 2) Select Print.
- 3) Select the PDF reDirect v2 printer from the printer drop down list.
- 4) Fill in the Page Range. For example pages 49-54.
- 5) Select OK and the PDF reDirect software will appear.
- 6) Select the folder on the left hand side to where you want the pages to be saved and feel free to change the Filename at the bottom. You can also see a preview of the pages being saved on the right hand side.
- 7) Select Save and then go to the folder on your hard drive or desktop to view the pages. The pages are converted to a PDF which creates a read-only copy.

Other Interesting Things Happening at CC

OAPCS Annual Conference

AOIS Representatives will be attending the Ohio Alliance for Public Charter Schools' first state charter-school conference, Oct. 14-15th. Within the past 5 years, we have worked closely with several Ohio Sponsors and Educational Management Organizations in trying to improve and manage oversight and compliance for charter schools.

Currently, 112 Ohio based Charter Schools are using AOIS. We are also working with a charter school to develop a customized AOIS to be used for their internal needs in addition to fulfilling their sponsor requirements.

We look forward to growing our current relationships and building new ones in Ohio. Stop by our table and say hello!



Implementing Technology Successfully

Executives and Directors have three main tasks when it comes to implementing new technology: *selection, adoption, and exploitation.* The first step is selecting the IT application that will meet the organizations needs and overall mission. Directors must use an inside-out approach when making the selection. There is an endless supply of new applications and therefore, directors need to begin with answering the question "What do we need IT to do for us?"

Once the IT selection is made, the next step is adoption. This involves hard work into putting the technologies they have invested in to productive use. Users must be able to see the benefits that the new technology brings. Depending on the type of application, directors may need to intervene forcefully throughout the adoption step. A tip to succeed in adoption is not to underestimate resistance when the technology imposes changes to the way people work. Directors must be prepared on how they are going to handle resistance and be willing to push ahead without having everyone on board.

The last step is exploitation. This requires extracting the maximum value from the technology after it is adopted. Once the entire organization is using the system, it becomes easy for directors and users to exploit all of the technologies capabilities.

Our team at Corporate Computer wants your organization to be successful with implementing AOIS. We are in the process of developing Administrator and User tip cards that will ensure AOIS is fully utilized in your organization. To receive these tip cards for your team, please contact Stephanie Misner at (616) 988-3200.

LOGIN ID QUESTIONS

W. David Schroeter
(616) 988-3222

dschroeter@corpcomp.com

AOIS QUESTIONS

Meghann Murphy
(616) 988-3215

mmurphy@corpcomp.com

NEW REPORTS FROM AOIS

Meghann Murphy
(616) 988-3215

mmurphy@corpcomp.com

INDEXING QUESTIONS

Stephanie Misner
(616) 988-3200

smisner@corpcomp.com

BILLING QUESTIONS

Stephanie Misner
(616) 988-3200

smisner@corpcomp.com

NETWORK CONNECTION QUESTIONS

Paul Mulder
(616) 988-3205

pmulder@corpcomp.com

WHO TO CONTACT

