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Skyward Positive Attendance Improves Student Tracking

New attendance method empowers students and improves accountability on student whereabouts

STEVENS POINT, Wis. (Oct. 28, 2014) – [Skyward](http://www.skyward.com), an industry leading K-12 school administrative software provider, has added a Positive Attendance solution that provides a new method of taking and tracking attendance that shows if a student is present, not absent during the school day. Giving students the flexibility and freedom they need to meet their individual learning needs, Positive Attendance enables schools to locate, track and moderate students within the building, offering a real-time picture of a student movements on a school's campus.

Positive Attendance accounts for a student's presence as they check into a classroom or designated school location via multiple access portals including entering a PIN on a keypad to a certified PASS™ device that scans ID cards or a code on a smartphone developed by [School Technology Associates, Inc.](http://www.schooltechnologyassociates.com) Positive Attendance empowers students to take control of their attendance and eliminates time educators spend on manually tracking student whereabouts and steps to verify students made it to the appropriate location.

The new tool is primarily used for enrichment periods where students have access to a wide variety of academic resources, such as the library, study groups or a teacher's classroom. Positive Attendance can also be used for large classrooms where attendance takes a long time, school dances and after-school coordination. The method shows educators and parents what classroom the student was scheduled to report to, as well as the location the student checked into, which can be extremely important in emergency situations.

Wisconsin-based Sauk Prairie High School, with more than 800 students, was the first school to implement Positive Attendance during the 2012-2013 school year. The high school sees the most benefit in the tool's integration with data Skyward already has in place, along with the school-wide study hall period, which gives students the freedom and flexibility to seek additional help from teachers if needed.

"Positive Attendance improves the functionality of our student information system to better meet the needs of students," said Shane Been, assistant principal at Sauk Prairie High School. "More than a static tool used by teachers, Positive Attendance gives students the freedom to be active during the day."

Nicolet High School, also located in Wisconsin, implemented Positive Attendance to provide its more than 1,100 students the flexibility to choose where to go for additional help on a daily basis. Positive Attendance greatly simplified the process and improved accountability and accuracy of attendance for Nicolet High School, along with giving teachers the entire resource period to work with students instead of writing hall passes.

"Teachers like that students can be responsible for signing themselves in and checking to make sure they are marked present," said John Reiels, director of technology at Nicolet High School. "Teachers, counselors and administrators benefit from being able to view an individual student's attendance to see what choices they are making during resource period in case students are not seeking help in classes where they need it."

For more information on Skyward Inc., visit www.skyward.com. For more information on the PASS devices used for Positive Attendance contact <http://www.k12sta.com> or call 877-436-4657.

About Skyward

Skyward is a leading provider of K-12 school administrative software that surpasses districts' needs in state reporting, improves operational capabilities, and opens communication between schools and families. Today, the Skyward School Management System™ is used in more than 1,700 school districts worldwide, ranging from districts with as few as 50 students to statewide implementations supporting more than 800,000 students. Founded in 1980, Skyward serves school districts with its integrated student, finance, and human resources suite of products and is proudly made and supported in the United States. To learn more, visit www.skyward.com.

About School Technology Associates, Inc.

School Technology Associates, Inc.(STAi), has provided exceptional service to Skyward customers for the past 22 years. During that time we've provided a wide range of peripheral hardware, software, forms, labels and custom products that are compatible with Skyward's School Management System.

Each product is tested and provided to Skyward's development and support staff for initial testing and long term support and development. STAi attend all 13 annual Skyward User Group meetings and visit Skyward's office on a regular basis. To learn more visit <http://www.k12sta.com>.

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