



## SUCCESS STORY

Irving ISD

TestHound



# An Essential Tool for Accurate and Efficient Assessments

Irving ISD, located northwest of Dallas, Texas, serves over 33,000 students in 38 educational facilities. With nearly 10,000 high school students across the district, Director of Student Assessment Christina Trotter says TestHound is a no-brainer when it comes to helping her testing coordinators work smarter to ensure students meet requirements for graduation.



[EducationAdvanced.com/Resources/Customer-Success](https://EducationAdvanced.com/Resources/Customer-Success)

## Challenge

Over the course of her 27 years in education, Trotter has seen it all when it comes to coordinating student assessments. “I’ve really seen the assessment program evolve over time, as well as the resources available to help us get through that process,” she said. Like most of her colleagues, Trotter organized her first state assessment as a brand-new counselor using a spreadsheet. Shortly thereafter, she learned how to use a database for test coordination at the state assessment conference and began using that method to organize high school testing information for a campus of 2300 students. “Eventually, it got too complicated with tracking accommodations for different programs and making sure that students had the right test materials,” Trotter recounted. “Unfortunately, you can still make human errors, even with a database.”



Additionally, using spreadsheets and databases is time intensive and requires a certain set of analytical skills. “When you’re writing formulas, you truly need an analytical mindset,” said Trotter. “Not everybody has that skill set.”

Spreadsheets and databases also lack the functionality to help testing coordinators avoid costly

errors that could result in testing irregularities. Trotter recalled a situation in which she made an error as a campus testing coordinator. “I gave a student an English test booklet instead of a Spanish test booklet,” Trotter shared. “My database wasn’t set up to alert me if I assigned the wrong type of test, but TestHound does that.”

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**Christina Trotter**

Director of Student Assessment



## Solution

Like many district testing coordinators, Trotter is always looking for tools to help her campus testing coordinators work smarter, not harder. “I have to consider what is going to be best for our campuses, what is going to save my coordinators time, and what is going to ensure that we have accurate data,” she said. “Many of our testing coordinators wear multiple hats, so if I can minimize the amount of time they have to spend on campus testing, that’s a no-brainer.”

TestHound integrates with Irving ISD’s SIS for an automated nightly import of student data, giving Trotter and her staff instant access to the most up-to-date student information. “With external programs like spreadsheets or databases, you

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have to pull those reports on your own and then manually enter that data,” Trotter said. “The evolution from a manual process to an automated process that saves time and ensures accurate data is imperative for state accountability.” TestHound accounts for the myriad of student, staff, and facility considerations, allows for 100% accountability of test booklets, and ensures students receive proper accommodations as documented in their IEP or IAP.



Student Information System (SIS) • • 



Database

**Automated nightly data feeds** are sent to TestHound to ensure accountability and increase efficiency and accuracy.



# The Results

Trotter predicts the district will see budget cuts in 2021-2022 because of less tax revenue but pledges that TestHound will not be among the programs affected. “I would make budget cuts elsewhere to keep TestHound in my district,” said Trotter. “Without it, we would exponentially increase the amount of time spent on test coordination at the campus and district level.” TestHound allows Irving ISD testing coordinators to spend their valuable time on what matters most, their students. Beyond providing unequaled assessment coordination, TestHound’s Performance Tracker has been instrumental in giving Irving ISD staff outside of

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testing coordinators access to critical student information. “With Performance Tracker, our high school counselors have access to enter exclusions, my special education lead teachers have access to verify accommodations, and any of them can look up a student’s STAAR and EOC scores instantly,” she said. TestHound’s EOC Tracker also provides counselors with clear reports illustrating which End-of-Course exams students

## At a Glance

- Able to spend more time on students’ needs
- Counselors gained access to critical student information
- Special Education teachers can verify accommodations or look up STAAR/EOC scores instantly
- Reports illustrating which students passed a course
- Fast access to exclusions or special provisions
- Ensuring students have met assessment requirements for graduation

have already passed and which ones are still required. “It’s an easy, quick look to see where students are, or if they have any exclusions or special provisions,” Trotter said. “This helps us make sure students have met their assessment requirements for graduation.”

The process that TestHound created saved our district *hours upon hours* of work.

Trotter also shared that she is grateful for the responsiveness of the TestHound development team and

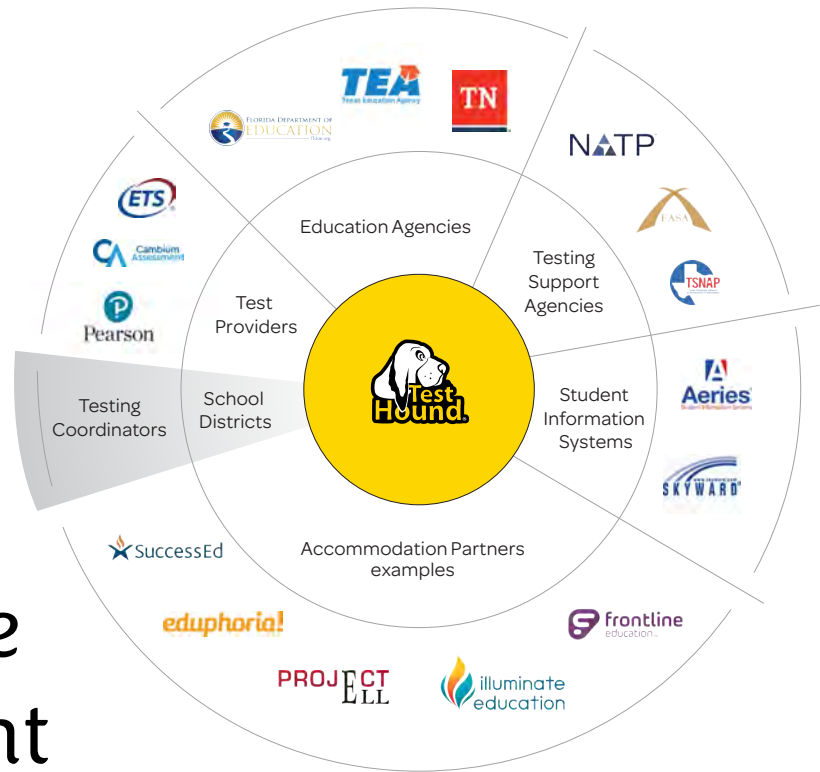
excited to see how TestHound will evolve to become an even more powerful tool for school districts. “I know that we’ll continue to see more and more features and support, especially with Performance Tracker,” she said. “As long as I’m around, TestHound will always be an essential tool in Irving ISD.”

# The Product



## The First Comprehensive Test Enablement Solution

TestHound is a comprehensive K-12 testing software and the only test enablement solution that integrates data from disparate systems into a single platform for efficient assessment coordination. During the 2019 school year, more than 325 districts used TestHound to schedule 3.5 million students for 225 state-mandated assessments and processed roughly 7.3 million student accommodations across various special programs. By utilizing the efficiencies provided through the platform, tasks that could take several days to accomplish using alternative methods can be done within a matter of hours.



Bringing people and data together to enable the best school testing experience.

TestHound empowers overextended school staff to efficiently and accurately coordinate K-12 assessments, allowing them to spend their valuable time on other priorities.

~~Your New Best Friend~~  
Your New <sup>Test</sup> Friend

## See it in Action

[Register For a Demo](#)

