

Announcing
8.5
FileMaker 8.5

FileMaker®

K - 12 Resource Guide



NEW PRODUCTS

FILEMAKER SOLUTIONS

TRAINING & CONSULTING





Accelerate your business potential

Join the FileMaker Solutions Alliance today!



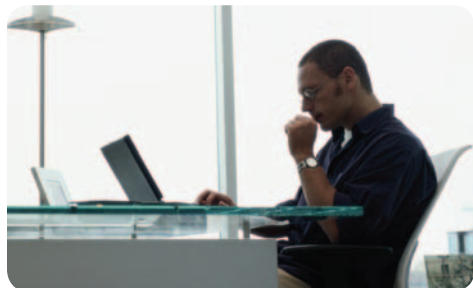
Join The FileMaker Solutions Alliance program to get a competitive advantage that puts your business and career on the fast track to greater success.

The FileMaker Solutions Alliance program is designed for software developers, in-house and corporate developers, trainers, and business consultants who want to accelerate their business and careers by doing more with FileMaker software.

Membership includes software* such as the FileMaker Server 8 and FileMaker Server 8 Advanced Development License software, plus specially selected evaluation software for your internal use, access to a community of FileMaker experts, invitations to members only events and conferences, and a wealth of technical, marketing, and sales resources will be at your fingertips.

To learn more or to apply now, please visit:

www.filemaker.com/developers



*Free software depends on your membership level.



Table of Contents

4 FileMaker, Inc. Products & Services

- 2 FileMaker Solutions Alliance (FSA)
- 4 FileMaker Pro 8.5 & FileMaker Pro 8.5 Advanced
- 5 FileMaker Server 8.0v4, FileMaker Server 8.0v4 Advanced & FileMaker Mobile 8
- 6 The FileMaker Learning Center
- 7 FileMaker Volume Licensing Programs, Professional Support Services & Free FileMaker Online Resources

8 K-12 Starter Kit

- 8 Human Resources by School Base
- 9 SeedCode Calendar
- 10 CourseTrack Next by iSolutions
- 10 Math Art by Super School
- 11 CourseWizard Lite by Waves in Motion
- 11 Curricula by dbGenius

12 Solutions

- 12 Student Information
- 13 Teacher Desktop
- 14 Special Education
- 15 Personal and Professional Development
- 15 School Operations
- 16 More Uses
- 30 Training Materials
- 31 FileMaker Professional Training & Certification

18 Services/Consultants

23 Training

25 Customer Stories

About FileMaker, Inc.

FileMaker database software helps schools in many aspects of collecting, managing and reporting on student and administrative data. Over 10,000 K-12 schools use FileMaker in their data-driven decision making processes to achieve greater operational efficiency, easily comply with federal and state reporting requirements, advance teacher development and monitor student performance.

© 2006 FileMaker, Inc. All rights reserved. FileMaker is a trademark of FileMaker, Inc., registered in the U.S.A. and other countries, and the file folder logo is a trademark of FileMaker, Inc. Microsoft Windows, and the Windows logo are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the U.S. and other countries. Mac and the Mac logo are trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Check www.filemaker.com for more information. Prices are in U.S. dollars. Portions of the screen shots are reprinted by permission from Microsoft Corporation. The example companies, organizations, products, domain names, email addresses, logos, people, places and events depicted are purely fictitious, and any resemblance to existing persons and companies is purely coincidental. Mention of third party companies and products is for informational purposes only and constitutes neither an endorsement nor a recommendation. All product specifications and descriptions were originally supplied by the respective vendor or supplier. FileMaker, Inc. assumes no responsibility with regard to the selection, performance, or use of these products. All understandings, agreements or warranties, if any, take place directly between the vendors and prospective users. Availability and terms of the FileMaker Solutions Alliance subject to change without notice. This information applies to the U.S., Canada, and Latin America FSA program only.



FileMaker, Inc. Products & Services



Manage people, projects, assets and more—the easy way!

FileMaker Pro 8.5 gives you the tools you need to manage, customize and share all your information on a network or over the web with both Windows and Mac users.

- **Customize databases to work the way you do** by adding your own fields and graphics to database screens.
- **Provide web access** to FileMaker through popular browsers – no additional software is required!
- **Share databases with up to 5 simultaneous users** whether using Windows or Mac OS over a network or through an Internet browser.
- **Use up-to-date information from your favorite websites** for site searching, package tracking, and more!

For more information or to place an order, please visit:
www.filemaker.com/pro85 or
 Call **(800) 325-2747** to speak with a FileMaker representative.



Advanced database design and development made easy!

New FileMaker Pro 8.5 Advanced has all the features of FileMaker Pro 8.5 plus advanced development and customization tools.

If you're using FileMaker Pro or FileMaker Developer, upgrade to FileMaker Pro 8.5 Advanced for its superior development and customization features to help you build more powerful, more customized databases.

- Add custom menus
- Add custom tooltips
- Import multiple tables at once
- Test scripts without modifying your database
- Create standalone runtime applications
- Create kiosk-based applications
- Add real-time Web content to your solutions
- Build more robust calculations with Custom Functions
- Generate a report that provides an overview of your database schema

For more information or to place an order, please visit:
www.filemaker.com/pro85adv or
 Call **(800) 325-2747** to speak with a FileMaker representative.



Maximize database performance and security

FileMaker Server 8 is high-performance server software that takes full advantage of the new FileMaker Pro 8 features while increasing reliability and maximizing database performance!

- Take advantage of exciting new features of FileMaker Pro 8.5
- Increase the reliability of your FileMaker solutions
- Maximize the performance of specific FileMaker tasks

For more information or to place an order, please visit:

www.filemaker.com/server8 or Call **(800) 325-2747** to speak with a FileMaker representative.



Publish to the web. Connect with the world.

FileMaker Server 8 Advanced has all the features of FileMaker Server 8 with powerful web publishing and external connectivity options so you can publish information from FileMaker to the web—and integrate with other applications.

- Publish dynamic data directly from FileMaker to the web
- Integrate FileMaker-based dynamic content into your existing website
- Connect to other applications using ODBC and JDBC

For more information or to place an order, please visit:

www.filemaker.com/server8adv or Call **(800) 325-2747** to speak with a FileMaker representative.



FileMaker Info to Go!

FileMaker Mobile 8 is a simplified version of FileMaker Pro 8 designed specifically for Palm OS and Pocket PC handhelds so you can easily extend your FileMaker solutions beyond your desktop to mobile individuals and workgroups.

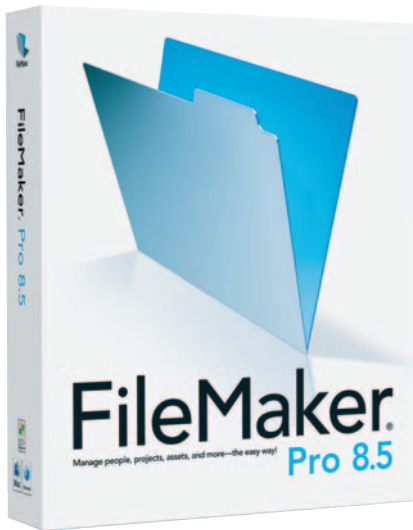
- Have FileMaker information at your fingertips
- Easily manage information while on the go
- Keep your databases in sync
- Create mobile workgroup solutions

For more information or to place an order, please visit:

www.filemaker.com/mobile8 or Call **(800) 325-2747** to speak with a FileMaker representative.

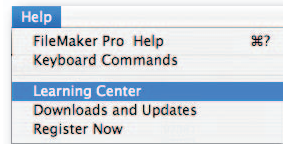
The FileMaker Learning Center

Get up and running quickly and easily. The FileMaker Learning Center offers a fun, convenient way to learn FileMaker Pro 8.5 at your own pace.



Learn FileMaker Pro with ease

Quickly tap into the richest features of the FileMaker product line. Whether you are a novice or an expert, the FileMaker Learning Center will help you get up and running quickly on numerous features of FileMaker Pro. It offers step-by-step video tutorials and other resources so that you can learn FileMaker Pro at your own pace.



Resources at your fingertips

- View more than 30 new QuickTime video tutorials designed to get you up and running with FileMaker Pro as quickly as possible.
- Put into practice what you've watched by downloading the sample databases used to create the Quicktime videos.
- Discover new ways to deliver information from the Web to your database with the FileMaker Web Viewer Sample Database.
- Search the FileMaker Knowledge Base to get answers to all your questions and stay up-to-date with the latest product information.
- Learn how to get started in minutes using your own data, a ready-made solution or by creating your own database from scratch.
- Access documentation for your FileMaker products, including User Guides and Tutorials.
- Tap into the wealth of additional resources at your disposal, including books, newsgroups, and even subscribe to FileMaker News.



Increase your purchasing power through FileMaker Volume Licensing Programs.

Whether you're a small or large business, educational institution, government agency, or non-profit institution, FileMaker Volume Licensing Programs offer you flexible, cost-effective ways to purchase FileMaker software for your team—at significant discounts!

- Purchases can start with as little as 10-seats
- Mix and match platforms, products (including FileMaker Pro, FileMaker Pro Advanced, FileMaker Server, FileMaker Server Advanced, FileMaker Mobile, and FileMaker Applications) and upgrades for larger tier discounts
- Licensing Maintenance options are available*

For more information or to place an order, please visit:

www.filemaker.com/store/licensing or Call **(800) 725-2747** to speak with a FileMaker Volume Licensing representative.

* FileMaker Mobile is not eligible for maintenance.

FileMaker Professional Support gives you priority access to premium services.

FileMaker Professional Support Services give you priority access to top technical experts and resources. As a member of this service, you receive unlimited toll-free calls, knowledgebase downloads, the FileMaker Resource Guide, file recovery services and more!



Also find important information on migrating your FileMaker Pro 6 and earlier solutions to FileMaker Pro 8.5 along with answers to common questions at www.filemaker.com/upgrade.

For more information or to sign up, please visit:

www.filemaker.com/profsupport or Call **(800) 325-2747** to speak with a FileMaker representative.



Stay in Touch with FileMaker

Sign up for the free FileMaker newsletter for monthly updates and latest offers and all that's new with FileMaker!

Sign up at:

www.filemaker.com/news/newsletter

K-12 Education Starter Kit

The FileMaker K-12 Education Starter Kit includes professional database solutions designed to help you get up and running with your new copy of FileMaker Pro 8.5 quickly and easily.

These downloaded solutions include pre-designed, ready-to-use databases that allow you to:

- Track faculty and staff more efficiently than ever before!
- Manage curriculum, admissions and grade books with ease.
- Have mathematical clip art at your fingertips.
- Manage registrations and course offerings more productively.
- Organize class materials all in one place.
- Track class schedules and appointments.

Human Resources by School Base – Track faculty and staff more efficiently than ever before!

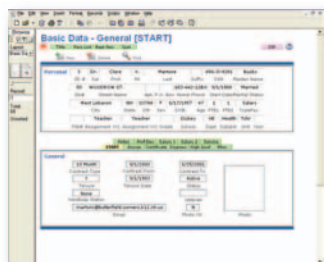
With Human Resources, developed by School Base, you'll be able to efficiently access and maintain basic demographic information for all employees, as well as, assignment history, certificates, degrees, dates of service, professional credits and more. Even track salary information and charge it to one or more accounts.

You'll also get a report generator that will allow you to create a multitude of reports on one screen. With 200 pre-defined password accounts, you can decide who gets access to what information, choosing from privilege sets including 'manager', 'principal', 'supervisor', 'director', 'secretary', and 'user', each providing different levels of access to the data.

This FileMaker Education Starter Solution was developed by School Base, a company of FileMaker Pro database developers specializing in education database solutions for over 11 years. School Base is a FileMaker Solutions Alliance Associate.

School Base

392 Bunker Hill Road
 Auburn, NH 03032 USA
 Tel: 603-483-2995
 Email: info@school-base.com
 Web: <http://www.school-base.com/>



K-12 Education Starter Kit

SeedCode Calendar – Track appointments with a calendar view of your data

This calendar allows you to track appointments with convenient Day, Week, and Month calendar views of your data. Add the calendar to your existing solution or use it as seed code to start new projects.

The calendar was developed by SeedCode, LLC. SeedCode develops and distributes powerful, unlocked FileMaker Pro templates and simple applications to help FileMaker developers jumpstart their projects. John Sindelar, of SeedCode, received the FileMaker Pro Excellence Award in 2004 for "Developing Outstanding Technical Resources for the FileMaker Community".

SeedCode LLC

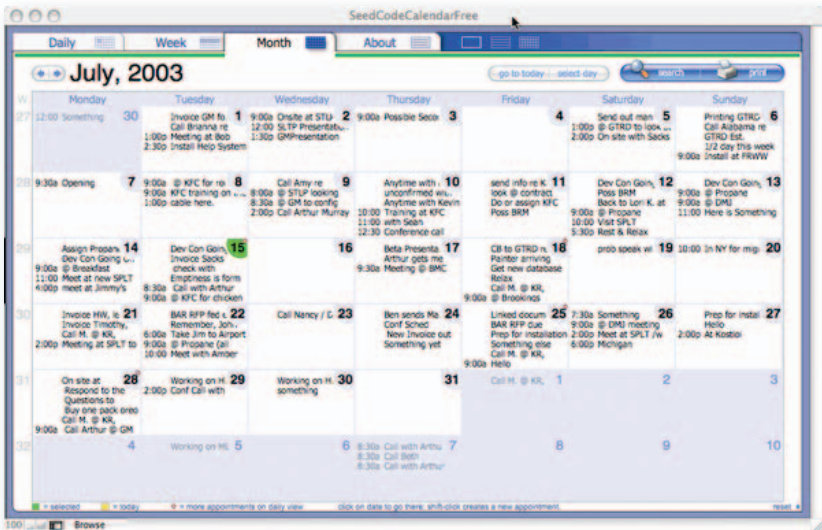
7523 25th Ave NE

Seattle, WA 98105 · USA

Tel: 206-715-2126

Email: support@seedcode.com

Web: <http://www.seedcode.com/>



K-12 Education Starter Kit

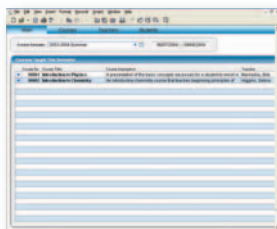
CourseTracker Next by iSolutions – Manage curriculum, admissions and grade books with ease.

With iSolution's CourseTracker Next, manage courses offered by semester, quarter, and year - and track all students who have taken those courses. Even see enrolled students by class, as well as those wait listed. Upon course completion, you can easily record grades and print report cards.

iSolutions is a forward thinking, information systems firm providing top notch consulting to elementary and secondary educational Institutions with focus on the areas of custom software design and development and web design and development. iSolutions has built and supported custom solutions for some of the largest school systems and universities in the U.S.

iSolutions, Inc.

1601 Cloverfield Blvd
2nd Floor, South Tower
Santa Monica, CA 90404 USA
Tel: 888-212-4620
Email: edu@isolutions-inc.com
Web: <http://www.isolutions-inc.com/>



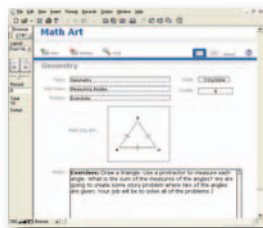
Math Art by Super School – Have mathematical clip art at your fingertips.

Super School's Math Art solution allows teachers to quickly find and use the math clip art needed to build mathematical word problems. This easy to use, customizable FileMaker 8 solution comes complete with built-in teacher's notes to help teachers create story problems that will assist students in meeting state standards. Sample clip art is included to give teachers a head start in building their own clip art libraries.

Super School Software is a leader in designing and publishing student and teacher productivity tools for Macintosh and Windows based computers. Super School designs custom and stand-alone electronic IEPs, portfolios, test designers, lesson planners, and high motivational distance learning programs for gifted, special education, general, at-risk, and English language learners.

Super School Software

1857 Josie Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90815 USA
Tel: 562-594-8580
Email: suprschool@aol.com
Web: <http://www.superschoolsoftware.com/>



K-12 Education Starter Kit

CourseWizard Lite by Waves in Motion – Manage registrations and course offerings more productively.

CourseWizard Lite, developed by Waves in Motion, is a course registration solution that helps professional development administrators manage their staff development programs easily and efficiently. You'll be able to manage course availability, grading, registration tracking, create basic catalogs, and much more!

Founded in 1987, Waves in Motion is a full service development and consulting firm specializing in FileMaker Pro enabling technologies. Having successfully served the educational community for more than six years, Waves In Motion is a FileMaker Solutions Alliance Partner and a member of the Apple Premier Developers Program.

Waves In Motion

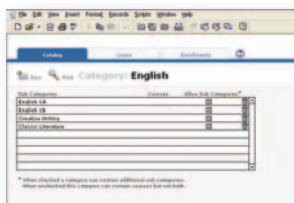
4131 N. 24th Street A 201

Phoenix, AZ 85016 USA

Tel: 602-956-7080

Email: info@wmotion.com

Web: <http://www.wmotion.com/>



Cirricula by dbGenius – Organize class materials all in one place.

dbGenius' teacher curriculum management solution, Cirricula, allows a teacher to store and manage the content for an entire class curriculum. Computer files such as a slide presentation or spreadsheet can be stored in the database along with the lesson outline and objectives. A teacher can search the database to select a lesson plan based on subject matter, grade level and other information.

dbGenius provides best-in-class custom database and web applications to K-12 and higher education. dbGenius offers public, private and custom training classes for FileMaker Pro. dbGenius is a FileMaker Solutions Alliance Associate and a FileMaker Authorized Trainer.

dbGenius

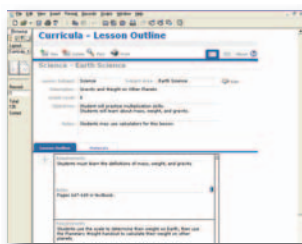
101 South Winnetka Avenue

Dallas, TX 75208-5103 USA

Tel: 972-390-8600

Email: info@dbgenius.com

Web: <http://www.dbgenius.com/>



The Education Starter Kit solutions have been developed by FileMaker Solutions Alliance ("FSA") members exclusively for this promotion. FileMaker makes no warranties, express or implied, with respect to the performance or reliability of any products presented herein that are developed by the FSA members. All understandings, agreements or warranties, if any, take place between the FSA member and prospective users. Should you need any technical support on any of the Education Starter solutions, please contact the FSA member directly using the contact information above.

Solutions From managing student records to posting reports cards on the web, FileMaker solutions developed specifically for educators and schools are sure to help you get more done in less time.

Student Information

Archived Records Retrieval System (ARRS)

With ARRS you can eliminate rows of filing cabinets by storing school and student-related documents in a searchable database that can be shared among dozens of users. Easily search, find, display, and print documents. Users can even email documents to school staff and parents instantly.

A Byte of Data

214-943-4522

<http://www.abyteofdata.com/products.htm>

CRT General Student Management

CRT General Student Management Program is a comprehensive general student database that tracks and reports on student and parent demographics, attendance, grading, transportation, scheduling, special notes, invoicing and health.

Customized Relational Technology

866-640-5437

<http://www.iep-crt.com>

ECFE OnTrack™

ECFE OnTrack was designed to help school districts manage information for their Early Childhood/Family Education and School Readiness Programs. This comprehensive program offers administrators a straightforward process for storing and retrieving class information, staffing assignments, and class registrations. In addition, the annual reporting feature eliminates year-end paperwork.

AppleSauce Productions

218-327-2671

<http://www.applesaucepro.com>

KEYSTONE

KEYSTONE is a centralized student database for K-12 schools that tracks students, teachers, classes, schedules, tests, grades, comments, and attendance.

inRESONANCE

413-587-0236

<http://www.inresonance.com/keystone>

PORTAL

PORTAL is an student admission solution for independent schools that tracks inquiries, applications, interviews, process flow, decisions and correspondence. It includes built-in label, email, mail merge and reporting features.

inRESONANCE

413-587-0236

<http://www.inresonance.com/portal>

SANDBOX

SANDBOX is a solution that allows K-8 school to tracks students, families, attendance, and homerooms. It includes built-in labels, mail, email merge and reporting features.

inRESONANCE

413-587-0236

<http://www.inresonance.com/sandbox>

School Administration Solution

The School Administration Solution manages admissions, students, teachers, classes, grades, and attendance. It includes customizable layouts, reports, and letters for small to mid-sized schools.

Apollo's Vision

(818) 576-1428

apollosvision@socal.rr.com

School RecordKeeper Pro

School RecordKeeper Pro tracks and organizes students, courses, personnel, transportation, and special programs. It includes reporting and search capabilities and can be accessed via the web.

RecordKeeper Software

503-345-9777

<http://www.schoolrecordkeeper.com/>

Student Tracker

Student Tracker keeps detailed records on your students, including demographic data, tuition costs and academic records for small fee-based K-12 schools.

Compu-Books

623-217-2167

<http://www.compu-books.com>

Teacher Desktop

Attendance

Track daily student attendance - including early departures, absences, and tardy arrivals - in an easy to use database. This solution includes monthly reports that can be generated for each student.

RP Consultants Inc.

613-749-2392

www.rpconsultants.ca

Observations for Teachers

Observations for Teachers is an easy to use student assessment tool for teachers that covers key academic areas, classroom behavior, and learning disabilities. It can be used with English language learners, gifted students and those at-risk for failure.

A Byte of Data

(214) 943-4522

<http://www.abyteofdata.com/products.htm>

OGT Test Maker Pro

OGT Test Maker Pro allows teachers to easily create classroom tests in state achievement format. Tests items can be directly correlated with the state curriculum.

Practical Solutions For Educators, Inc.

937-642-7755

<http://www.ogttestmaker.com>

Paperwork Solutions

Paperwork Solutions allows teachers to easily create and manage lesson plans, discipline reports, assessment rubrics, special education accommodations, and positive recognition awards.

Paperwork Solutions

251-604-1663

<http://PaperworkSolutions.com>

The Teachers Survival Kit for the 21st Century

The Teachers Survival Kit provides teachers with helpful database templates to track students, grades, lesson plans, IEPs, seating charts and more!

teachersoffice.com

562-212-3599

<http://www.teachersoffice.com>

Special Education

IDEAPro

IDEAPro is an Individual Education Plan (IEP) software package, developed in conjunction with the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). IDEAPro contains CEC approved documents for special education students. This solution is used to publish and archive unlimited numbers of IEPs for a single user or an entire school district. The documents are linked to a library of customizable goals and benchmarks.

Chalkware Education Solutions

800 838-9058

<http://iepware.com/ideaprodemonstration.html>

IEP Web Program and Goal Bank

IEP Web Program and Goal Bank is a comprehensive and flexible web-based solution for development and management of IEP information and other supplemental forms, letters, and reports. It contains over 4500 measurable and content specific goals and objectives.

Customized Relational Technology

708-288-2195

http://www.iep-crt.com/products/iep_program.htm

IEP Writer Pro

IEP Writer Pro is a standalone program used to create IEP forms for the state of Ohio.

Practical Solutions For Educators, Inc.

937-642-7755

<http://www.psfe.com>

IEPPro

IEPPro automates and streamlines preparing, writing and publishing IEP documents that comply with county, state and Federal requirements. The solution contains over 18,500 goals and objectives written to meet education objectives in academic, language, vocational, independent living, GATE, speech communication, and more.

Chalkware Education Solutions

(800) 838-9058

<http://www.iepware.com>

InterventionPro

InterventionPro is report writing software designed to assist psychologists, teachers and other staff in designing and implementing Behavior Intervention / Behavior Support Plans for at risk or special education students. It contains a library of over 450 suggested interventions/strategies searchable by student behavior category.

Chalkware Education Solutions

800 838-9058

<http://www.iepware.com>

MFE Writer Pro

MFE Writer Pro is a standalone program used to create the evaluation report needed to qualify students for special education in the state of Ohio.

Practical Solutions For Educators, Inc.

937-642-7755

<http://www.psfe.com>

Special Ed Manager Pro

Special Ed Manager Pro is a standalone program used to manage student data, dates, class lists and codes for special education students in the state of Ohio.

Practical Solutions For Educators, Inc.

937-642-7755

<http://www.psfec.com/>

Special EdNet Pro

Special EdNet Pro is a solution for developing individual education plans, creating evaluation reports and managing data for special education students.

Practical Solutions For Educators, Inc.

937-642-7755

<http://www.psfec.com>

SPED Easy

SPED Easy is a complete forms management system for special education teachers. It identifies required forms for meetings and includes a standard library of over 200 goals and 1,200 objectives.

Small Bus. Comp. of New England, Inc.

Gene Calvano

<http://www.sbcne.com>

Personnel and Professional Development

Classroom Observations for Administrators

Classroom Manager is designed to allow beginners or advanced users to create, locate, and update appropriate instructional plans for a particular student. Schedules, progress reports, report cards and other student information is automatically entered and published on individually customized district documents in digitized form.

A Byte of Data

214-943-4522

<http://www.abbyteofdata.com/products.htm>

Course Wizard

CourseWizard is an easy-to-use, online registration system designed to simplify the administration of professional development programs. In addition, it tracks the data required for state standards compliance.

Waves in Motion

602-956-7080

<http://www.wmotion.com>

School Operations

Calendar Developer Tool 8

The Calendar Developer Tool 8 is a complete calendaring application for a single or multi-user environment with FileMaker Pro 8.0 or later. Use it to schedule classrooms, A/V equipment, professional development courses and more.

Formulations Pro

858-794-1530

<http://www.formulationspro.com>

Enroll!

Enroll! is a student enrollment and scheduling solution design to help educators manage registration processes, class budgets, instructor rates, class rosters, evaluation forms and more.

SolutionMakers, Inc

(800) 237-3975

<http://www.solutionmakers.com>

Field Trip - a School Automation Suite solution

The Field Trip solution automates the scheduling and approval process of field trips for schools.

Possible Solutions, Inc.

845-783-4276

<http://www.possible-solutions.com>

GENERATIONS

GENERATIONS is a full-featured fund raising solution designed for educational institutions. The solution tracks constituents, gifts, pledges, prospects, funds, campaigns, appeals, and events. It includes built-in mail and email merge as well as customizable and robust reporting.

inRESONANCE

413-587-0236

<http://www.inresonance.com/generations>

Lunchroom Management Program

The Lunchroom Management Program is a customizable sales automation product for school cafeterias. It tracks all meals and items sold and generates a variety of reports - saving time in processing sales.

Customized Relational Technology

866-640-5437

<http://www.iep-crt.com/products/lunch.htm>

RoomDex

RoomDex allows educators to schedule meetings and other events in conference rooms, laboratories, or computer labs. Share schedules with other staff or print them in a daily or weekly format.

Watzman Associates

513.528.7474

<http://www.watzmanassociates.com>

School Bus Driver Database

School Bus Driver Database manages school transportation schedules and includes accounting for driver salaries. It includes reports to track bus driver salaries and state accounting rules.

Mr. Mac/K

(972) 231-0765

raymackt@comcast.net

More Uses**ADVOCATE**

ADVOCATE is a customizable solution to help teachers organize the college guidance process for students. It tracks applications, tests, activities, colleges, visits, and interviews. It also includes Scattergrams, email and mail merge functions.

inRESONANCE

413-587-0236

<http://www.inresonance.com/downloads>

Box Office Pro

Box Office Pro is a ticketing solution designed to print and sell tickets for school musicals and plays. It's easy to set up and can be used as a standalone or network solution.

Practical Solutions For Educators, Inc.

937-642-7755

<http://www.boxofficepro.net>

Parent Observations-Parents As School Partners

Parents Observations allow parents to share information about their children with the school, assisting in the structure of their children's learning programs. Parents can easily compile and print information for parent-teacher conferences and support professionals.

A Byte of Data

214-943-4522

<http://www.abyteofdata.com/products.htm>

S e r v i c e s This section provides information about the consultant services offered by members of the FileMaker Solutions Alliance (FSA). FSA members are software professionals who recommend, design, integrate, or install customized solutions based on FileMaker® software. If you don't have the time to customize your business solution, an FSA member can help. Find out more about their services at www.filemaker.com/solutions/find_consultants.

C o n s u l t a n t s Consultants are software professionals who recommend, design, integrate, or install customized FileMaker based solutions. Comprised of FSA Associate and Partner members, consultants enhance the value of FileMaker products by providing additional services and functionality that address unique customer problems. Find out more about consultants at: www.filemaker.com/solutions/find_consultants.html or contact a consultant directly.

Canada

Alberta

Calgary	Brandt Communications Inc.	(403) 286-7666	members.shaw.ca/bcibusiness
St. Albert	DataNet Communications	(780) 460-7266	www.datanetcomm.com

British Columbia

Mill Bay	User Friendly's	(888) 232-8989	www.userfriendly.ca
Port Coquitlam	MacslS Technology Integrators	(604) 807-4294	
Richmond	School District #38 - Richmond	(604) 668-6128	www.sd38.bc.ca
Salt Spring Island	Denny Interactive	(416) 693-7696	www.denny.ca
Vancouver	Data Accent	(778) 837-8126	www.dataaccent.com
	FileMakerU Training	(604) 639-6832	www.filemakeru.com

Ontario

London	CoreSolutions Development Inc.	800.650.8882	www.coresolutions.ca
Toronto	CoreSolutions Development Inc.	800.650.8882	www.coresolutions.ca

Quebec City

Montreal	Simplidata	(514) 738-9052	www.simplidata.com
	Simulation Indigo	(514) 994-8667	www.simulations.org
Québec	Solutions Documentaires GESTAR	(418) 877-5094	www.gestar.qc.ca

USA

Arkansas

Little Rock	Gordon Consulting	(501) 258-1966	
-------------	-------------------	----------------	--

Arizona

Gilbert	DBHQ	(480) 598-1917	www.dbhq.net
---------	------	----------------	--

Glendale	Compu-Books	(623) 217-2167	www.compu-books.com
Phoenix	FMPtraining.com	(866) 367-8764	www.fmptraining.com
	innonievations	(480) 763-2548	
	Waves in Motion	(602) 956-7080	www.wmotion.com

California

Agoura Hills	Chaparral Soft. & Consult. Svcs., Inc.	(818) 225-1247	www.chapsoft.com
Aptos	Lowden Business Solutions	(831) 688-5987	www.lowdensolutions.com
Berkeley	Nicely Done Solutions, Inc.	(510) 526-3744	www.nicelydone.com
Burbank	Angel City Data	(818) 238-0172	www.angelcitydata.com
Castro Valley	CLM Systems	(510) 886-5774	
Chatsworth	Apollo's Vision	(818) 576-1428	
Chino Hills	Database Pros	(909) 393-4664	www.databasepros.com/
Claremont	Alchemy Group	(909) 593-6368	www.alchemy-group.com
Davis	DataStorm Solutions	(530) 680-7239	www.datastorm-solutions.com
Fair Oaks	Full Moon Consultants	(916) 962-1731	
Lafayette	Sierra Vista Associates	(925) 376-1877	
Long Beach	Accelerate Computer Training	(562) 256-4060	www.acceleratecomputertraining.com/
	Allen & Allen Semiotics	(562) 938-7890	www.semiotics.com
	teachersoffice.com	(562) 212-3599	www.teachersoffice.com
Menlo Park	Wellspring Data	(650) 853-1179	www.wellspringdata.com
Mission Viejo	Acrobytes Software	(949) 768-8490	www.acrobytes.com
Newbury Park	DataExperience	(805) 368-4748	www.dataexperience.com
North Hollywood	The Support Group, Inc.	(818) 754-1300	www.supportgroup.com
	The Support Group, Inc.	(818) 754-1300	www.supportgroup.com
Redwood City	Lifescape Inc.	(650) 368-8448	www.lifescape.net/
Sacramento	ISInc.	(916) 920-1700	www.isinc.com
San Anselmo	Micro Computer Consulting	(415) 459-7241	www.harlow.com
San Diego	Cognitive Networks, Inc	(619) 787-1749	
San Francisco	Joel Shapiro - Database Design	(415) 269-5055	www.jsfmp.com
San Mateo	Alrx.net incorporated	(650) 430-4679	www.alrx.net
	Soliant Consulting	(650) 340-1779	www.soliantconsulting.com
	Soliant Consulting	(650) 340-1779	www.soliantconsulting.com
	The Support Group, Inc.	(650) 685-4300 x215	www.supportgroup.com
	The Support Group, Inc.	(650) 685-4300	www.supportgroup.com/
San Rafael	i2d, inc.	(415) 459-1145	WWW.i2dinc.com
Seal Beach	Altoe	(562) 430-6084	www.altoe.com
Vacaville	Chalkware Education Solutions	(800) 838-9058	www.iepware.com
	Tinder Solutions	(707) 628-4532	www.tindersolutions.com

Colorado

Denver	Zeraffe Associates, Inc.	(303) 670-3809	www.zeraffe.com
Englewood	New Horizons CLC of Colorado	(303) 745-0100	www.nhcolorado.com

Connecticut			
Colchester	Access Computer Assistance	(860) 537-1720	www.WEmpowerU.com
Greenwich	Get Physical! Software, LLC	(203) 622-0108	www.getphysicalsoftware.com
Stamford	1st Growth Management, LLC	(203) 770-6558	www.firstgmn.com
Florida			
Land O Lakes	Assist Educational Services	(813) 298-0418	www.aesdata.com
Orlando	Deploy Tech Services	(800) 577-2447	www.deploytech.net
Georgia			
Decatur	The Moyer Group, Inc.	(404) 377-1514	www.moyergroup.com
Illinois			
Chicago	Soliant Consulting	(312) 850-3830	www.soliantconsulting.com
Palatine	American Academy of Computer Training & Technology Inc. (AACTT)	(847) 590-9500	www.aactt.com
Tinley Park	Customized Relational Technology	(708) 288-2195	www.iep-crt.com
Kansas			
Lyons	Custom Database Design	(620) 242-8616	www.PestaRoo.com
Maine			
Cumberland	Moore & Moore Enterprises, Inc.	(207) 829-6795	
Eliot	Sonata, Inc.	(207) 439-4740	www.sonata.fm
Portland	Jacobson Consulting Services, Inc.	(207) 756-4307	
Massachusetts			
Amherst	Dedication Technologies, Inc.	(413) 253-7223	studioschoolpro.com
Arlington	Aptworks Consulting	(781) 648-4782	www.apptworks.com
	Dancing-Data	(781) 646-7708	www.dancing-data.com
	Drew Tenenholz	(781) 648-1932	
Bellingham	Silver Lake Productions	(508) 883-4879	www.silverlakeproductions.com/
Belmont	KCunning Consulting	(617) 817-2978	kcunning.com/consulting/
	QED Systems, Inc.	(617) 489-2238	www.qedsys.com
Boston	Intelligent Database	(617) 484-0005	www.intelligentdb.com
Cambridge	Six Red Marbles	(617) 492-9668 X101	www.sixredmarbles.com
Lexington	HelpDesk, Inc.	(781) 862-5530	www.helpdeskpros.com
Natick	The Support Group, Inc.	(508) 653-8400 x212	www.supportgroup.com/
	The Support Group, Inc.	(508) 653-8400	www.supportgroup.com/
Northampton	inRESONANCE	(413) 587-0236	www.inresonance.com
	inRESONANCE	(413) 587-0236	www.inresonance.com
Somerville	Pretty Cool Solutions	(617) 694-1709	www.prettycoolsolutions.com/
Stoneham	Mike Zarin Consulting	(617) 894-2803	www.mikezarin.com
Maryland			
Columbia	Ease Technologies, Inc.	(888) 327-3911	www.easetech.com
Upper Marlboro	T C Solutions	(301) 599-9300	www.tc-solutions.com
Michigan			
Ann Arbor	Desktop Services	(734) 741-9743	www.desktopservicesmi.com

Dexter	DataSmith Consulting, LLC	(734) 426-8077	www.datasmithconsulting.net
Lansing	Data Design Pros, LLC	(517) 694-8372	www.DataDesignPros.com
Minnesota			
Cottage Grove	Steve Wilmes Consulting, Inc.	(651) 458-1513	www.swconsulting.com
Grand Rapids	AppleSauce Productions	(218) 327-2671	www.applesaucepro.com
Minneapolis	Macintosh Consulting Unlimited	(952) 922-2213	www.mm.com/mac
St. Paul	TIES	(651) 999-6000	www.ties.k12.mn.us
Missouri			
Nixa	The Moyer Group, Inc.	(866) 284-4623	www.moyergroup.com
St. Louis	Custom Macintosh/Windows Training	(314) 569-1019	homepage.mac.com/pattyrothman
North Dakota			
Minot	at&p - LLP	(800) 735-6938	www.ladendorf.org
Nebraska			
Lincoln	The Moyer Group, Inc.	(866) 856-5652	www.moyergroup.com
New Hampshire			
Auburn	School Base	(800) 999-6996	www.school-base.com
Hampton Falls	Joel M. Bowers & Associates	(603) 778-7494	www.jmba.com
Nashua	ACR at Work, Inc.	(603) 886-6488	www.acrcorp.com
New Jersey			
Pennington	System's Three, Inc.	(609) 737-9301	
Ridgewood	FullCity Consulting Inc.	(201) 445-9670	
Wyckoff	EMS Solutions, Inc.	(201) 847-9291	www.EMSSolutions.org
New Mexico			
Sandia Park	Best Option Inc.	(505) 286-5178	www.bestoptioninc.com
Nevada			
Las Vegas	JJR Consulting	(408) 702-0941	www.jjr-consulting.com
	NexTech	(702) 768-7597	www.nextchnoz.com
New York			
Albany	FullCity Consulting, Inc.	(845) 758-1360	
Bellmore	Computer Counselors, Inc.	(516) 679-1600	
Monroe	Possible Solutions, Inc.	(845) 783-4276 or (212) 344-2100	www.possiblesolutions.com
New York	The Support Group, Inc.	(212) 216-9400	www.supportgroup.com
New York	The Support Group, Inc.	(212) 216-9400	www.supportgroup.com
Ohio			
Cincinnati	Bonding Solutions, Inc.	(513) 624-7823	www.databasesoftware.net
	Watzman Associates	(513) 528-7474	www.watzmanassociates.com
Columbus	Cleveland Consulting, Inc.	(877) 225-4891	www.clevelandconsulting.com
Marysville	Practical Solutions For Educators, Inc.	(937) 642-7755	www.psfec.com
Oklahoma			
Oklahoma City	MacSpec, Inc.	(405) 470-1913	www.macspecinc.com
Oregon			
Beaverton	Beck & Co.	(800) 657-5932	www.awbeck.com

Eugene	Management Planning Systems	(541) 484-1004	
Portland	Imbue Information Design	503.245.0441	www.imbueid.com
Pennsylvania			
Jenkintown	IT Solutions Consulting, Inc.	(215) 886-7166	www.itsolutions-inc.com
	IT Solutions Consulting, Inc.	(215) 886-7166	www.itsolutions-inc.com
Mechanicsburg	Resolutions Training & Consulting	(717) 697-2318	www.resolutions-training.com
Telford	Digital Software Solutions, LLC	(215) 799-0192	dss-db.com
Rhode Island			
Foster	The ICon Group	(401) 397-8098	www.theicongroup.com/
Kingston	Performance Data Solutions, LLC	(401) 789-4252	www.performancedatasolutions.com
Tennessee			
Nashville	The Jackson-Crockett Company	(615) 662-3400	www.hermitage.com
Texas			
Allen (Dallas)	MightyData, LLC	(972) 390-8600	www.mightydata.com
Austin	Contact Central Software	(201) 575-1707	www.contactcentralsoftware.com
Dallas	A Byte of Data	(214) 943-4522	www.abyteofdata.com
Dallas	Polytrope LLC	(214) 717-5353	polytrope.com
Houston	Bigham Technology Solutions, Inc.	(281) 866-9726	
Marquez	Software Solutions Pro	(903) 626-5952	www.sspweb.com
San Antonio	AlaMark Technologies	(210) 704-8393	www.alamark.com
Utah			
West Valley City	MyDBSolutions, LLC	(801) 455-2122	www.mydbsolutions.com
Vermont			
Marshfield	Ram Design	(802) 454-1299	www.ramdesign.net
Virginia			
Front Royal	Discovery Data Systems, Ltd.	(540) 635-8190	www.ddsva.com
Herndon	The Support Group, Inc.	(703) 742-0821	www.supportgroup.com/
Herndon	The Support Group, Inc.	(703) 742-0821	www.supportgroup.com/
Providence Forge	Cross Platform Solutions	(804) 938-4200	www.cpscat.com
Richmond	Technvisions	(804) 320-3424	www.technvisions.com
Washington			
Edmonds	Genwest Systems, Inc.	(425) 771-2700	www.genwest.com
Woodinville	Portage Bay Solutions, Inc.	(425) 481-8175	www.PortageBay.com

Training FileMaker Authorized Trainers have undergone extensive training to deliver FileMaker Professional Training Foundation Series III programs and have an extensive knowledge of FileMaker best practices and solutions. Courses are highly customized to accelerate learning and productivity. For full details on course offerings and training locations, please consult individual trainers.

Accelerate Computer Training

211 E. Ocean Blvd, Suite 220, Long Beach, CA 90802, United States
(562) 256-4060 | tim@acceleratecomputertraining.com | www.jonestraining.com



AlaMark Technologies

943 SBC Center Parkway, San Antonio, TX 78219, United States
(210) 704-8393 | jsavoie@alamark.com | www.alamark.com



CoreSolutions Development Inc.

2 Billingham Road, Suite 203, Toronto, ON M9B 6E1, Canada
(800) 650-8882 | training@coresolutions.ca | www.coresolutions.ca



Corporate Network Services, Inc.

20010 Fisher Avenue, Box 505, Poolesville, MD 20837, United States
(301) 948-8077 | sales@cornetser.com | www.cornetser.com



Database Pros

PO Box 3998, Crestline, CA 92325-3998, United States
(909) 338-4006 | jmo@filemakerpros.com | www.databasepros.com/training.html



First Tech

2640 Hennepin Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408, United States
(612) 374-8000 | jsig@firsttech.com | www.firsttech.com



FMPtraining.com

4525 E. Chuckwalla Canyon, Phoenix, AZ 85044, United States
(480) 759-4844, Toll-free: (866) FMP-TRNG, (866) 367-8764
jerry@fmptraining.com | www.fmptraining.com



inResonance

70 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060, United States
(413) 587-0236 | fsa@inresonance.com | www.inresonance.com



IT Solutions Consulting, Inc.

1653 The Fairway, Suite 209, Jenkintown, PA 19046, United States
(215) 886-7166, Toll-Free: (866)-PICK-ITS
Jim.higgins@itsolutions-inc.com | www.itsolutions-inc.com



MightyData, L.L.C.

1199 Comanche Drive, Allen, TX 75013, United States
(972) 390-8600
info@mightydata.com | www.mightydata.com



Soliant Consulting

14 N. Peoria Street 2H, Chicago, IL 60607, United States
(312) 850-3830 | training@soliantconsulting.com | www.soliantconsulting.com



The Moyer Group

246 Sycamore Street, Suite 215, Decatur, GA 30030, United States
(866) 284-4623 | training@moyergroup.com | www.moyergroup.com



The Support Group, Inc.

24 Prime Park Way, Natick, MA 01760, United States
(508) 653-2310 | coulombre@supportgroup.com | www.supportgroup.com

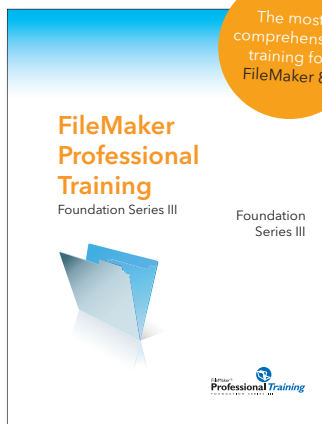


Increase your knowledge and proficiency with FileMaker training and certification.

FileMaker Training

FileMaker Professional Training Foundation Series is the most-comprehensive training resource available for FileMaker products. It provides you with the information and materials you need to master FileMaker essentials to develop and deploy professional FileMaker solutions.

- Experience live interaction with the foremost FileMaker experts in an instructor-led classroom environment.
- Have access to the most-comprehensive course materials available for FileMaker.
- Prepare for certification



FileMaker Certification

Become certified on the latest version of FileMaker software! Earning the FileMaker Developer Certification acknowledges your expertise and proficiency with FileMaker products. And your credentials affirm your knowledge in the development and deployment of professional FileMaker solutions for your organization or clients.



- Be recognized as a technical leader by clients, co-workers, and the FileMaker development community.
- Give yourself and your company a competitive edge to better compete in today's market.

For more information on FileMaker training and certification, please visit: www.filemaker.com/professionaltraining or www.filemaker.com/certification or Call **(800) 325-2747** to speak with a FileMaker representative.

Greene County Educational Service Center

FileMaker Pro databases help provide a wide range of special services for seven Ohio school districts

In Greene County, Ohio, the Greene County Educational Service Center provides and administers programs and services for special-needs and at-risk students spanning seven school districts. With a staff of about 170 employees, time and labor are both at a premium for the Center - with FileMaker Pro databases helping to ensure timely and dependable delivery and documentation of needed services.

The Greene County Educational Service Center is a bustling, fast-moving operation, with Director of Organizational Services Dr. Ron Anderson working to keep up with the needs of its client schools. "Not only do we provide direct services to students, such as speech therapy, occupational and physical therapy, school psychological evaluations, and mental health therapy," he notes, "but we also operate several satellite school programs, including the Greene County Learning Center, the Academy of Greene County, Camp Birch, and various preschool sites, for severely emotionally handicapped students, preschool students, or students who are at risk for school failure."

Such programs have demanding record-keeping requirements, and Ron learned early on how FileMaker Pro could help keep that data in motion. "We've been using FileMaker Pro since 2002," he explains, "when I first attended a one-day training session. Realizing the potential for use in our organization, I continued to learn about FileMaker, and in December 2004 I attended a FileMaker Pro professional training program in Atlanta with Chris Moyer, The Moyer Group."

Easy operation and simplified development in FileMaker Pro means real savings across the board - tasks like creating an employee directory, which formerly took up to three days to complete, can now be accomplished in five minutes. And in public education, every dollar and every minute counts. "Using FileMaker Pro, we've trimmed weeks of work from many employees' jobs," Ron explains, "resulting in cost savings and increased productivity. Employee directories are created in seconds rather than days, Licensure Expiration letters are created in seconds rather than weeks, workshop materials such as nametags and certificates are created in seconds rather than hours. I could go on and on about time savings!"

Nowhere is the value of time saving more apparent than in the enhancement of the Mental Health Unit's database. "Because our old solutions had been developed by several consultants over time, no one knew each specific table in which changes had been made," Ron recalls. "It had become chaos. But

the enhanced relational tools in FileMaker Pro allowed us to integrate dozens of tables that were previously independent. And creating relationships is easy - with one mouse click you connect a key field in one table with its foreign field in another. This feature alone saves hours."

That improvement means both faster updating and that, in turn, means that reimbursements come in faster than ever before. "The Mental Health unit was able to triple the revenue they generated in the first month using the new FileMaker Pro solution I developed," continues Ron, "and the revenue continues to come in at that level." The statistics for the last half of calendar year 2005 bear up Ron's predictions - showing a bottom-line jump of over 218% over the revenue figures for the same period in 2004, for an increase of over \$206,000.

The Center's initial investment in FileMaker Pro repays itself regularly through smoother operation, increased revenue, and more productive, happier employees. "We continue to use FileMaker Pro," Ron declares, "because it's affordable for our organization and doesn't require an expensive IT operation to keep it running."

"The Mental Health unit was able to triple the revenue they generated in the first month using the new FileMaker Pro solution I developed, and the revenue continues to come in at that level."

**Dr. Ron Anderson, Director of Organizational Development,
Greene County Educational Service Center**

Dr. Ron Anderson

Director of Organizational Development
Greene County Educational Center
937-767-1303 x4306
gcb_anderson@mveca.org
<http://www.greene.k12.oh.us>

Los Angeles Unified School District/ Special Education Compliance

Tracking mandatory compliance with Special Education reporting requirements is made easier and more efficient with FileMaker Pro

Compliance with complex Special Education reporting requirements is an issue for every school district, large and small. But for the Special Education Compliance Department at the Los Angeles Unified School District, the sheer size and scope of nearly 900 schools makes the job especially daunting. Every year, 200 of these schools have their reports and documents audited by the Compliance Department - and this process means extensive information processing, a task made easier by a longstanding relationship with FileMaker Pro.

Tim discovered FileMaker Pro back in 1989 - growing with every version of the software right up to the present, and proving itself an invaluable tool for rapid development of needed, necessary solutions. "A lot of what we do has a limited

shelf life, so we're writing 'disposable' databases," he points out, "quick and simple data collection tools that can be written and deployed faster than the policy memos that direct the staff to send us the data."

The primary FileMaker Pro database used by the Compliance Department contains about 50 tables in a single file and 50 layouts. "The field teams gather most of the data little by little," explains Tim. "They enter it over the WAN, and reports are generated as each school is reviewed. The aggregated data will produce year-end reports for the Board, the State, and the independent monitor. Occasionally, our research and other units ask for something, so custom reports are developed."

The arrival of FileMaker Pro 8 means important new advances for the Department's system - and those innovations are eagerly anticipated. Foremost of these enhancements is Excel Maker. With much of the data gathered by field teams coming in as statistics, spreadsheets are a vital reporting tool - and Excel Maker ensures those documents are prepared quickly, accurately, and automatically. "I'm routinely pushing defined Excel spreadsheets to managers via e-mail," Tim says. "It's all done with one click."

But the most important advantages of FileMaker Pro 8 for the Department are found in the ways in which it helps simplify the day-to-day development process. "I'm the only developer in the Department," Tim emphasizes, "and my productivity is on a very steep rise with FileMaker Pro 8. There are so many things that just speed up development and enhance user experience, things like being able to duplicate a whole table or build tabs in layouts so quickly. The Relationship Graph is phenomenal - and so much fun! I use it to teach colleagues about relationships, and its visual nature makes that easy for them. And I love the reorganization of all the field controls."

Enthusiasm about FileMaker Pro 8 is spreading rapidly - from the compliance staff themselves all the way up the line through the various managers who benefit from easy, efficient delivery of detailed reports. "We're creating more and more buzz at the office," Tim concludes. And with the improved usability and efficiency of FileMaker Pro 8, we're experimenting with new ways to use it to benefit the district."

Tim Skilton

Compliance Specialist
Special Education Compliance Department
(213) 241-8108
silverfoot@mac.com

Putting Data to Work with Union City Board of Education

Union City, New Jersey, sits in the shadow of New York City, its neighbor across the Hudson River. But the Union City Board of Education, which serves nearly 10,000 students in 12 schools with 1,500 faculty and non-instructional employees, takes a back seat to no one in its collection, management and analysis of data, thanks to FileMaker Pro, the award-winning database from FileMaker.

The city, which is 1.4 miles square, faces a double challenge: a large population of students whose first language is not English, and is part of the state's "Abbott" system, an outgrowth of a state Supreme Court ruling that brings additional funding. The Union City School District is under a mandate from the State of New Jersey not only to provide optimal education, but also to track and verify the effectiveness of program spending.

During the past four years, that information management challenge has increasingly been met by the use of FileMaker Pro, a cross-platform solution. Utilizing the expertise of two FileMaker Solutions Alliance (FSA) members, Union City has turned the old school chant of "no more pencils, no more books" into a happy refrain of "no more paper - it's in FileMaker."

That shift from paper to pixels came about in large measure because of the state demands, said Anthony Dragona, business administrator for the Union City Board of Education.

"All of our schools ... were given the charge of having to develop school-based budgets," he recalled in a recent interview. This required a "new management style that would create management teams on a school level, schools would develop their own personalities, through choosing a model and developing a needs assessment and operations to support that plan."

Instead of concentrating data at the Board of Education, where allocations and decisions could be made, the information had to shift to the schools, Mr. Dragona said.

"We had to provide the schools with tools that would help them make decisions that would best impact a child's education," he noted.

In turn, this meant taking the data and making it available to administrators in the schools.

"Four years ago, we entered into agreement with [FileMaker developer School Base], it was 30-something databases," Mr. Dragona said. "Today, we're up to over 90 databases. We took a customized solution and it gave us what we needed at that time with expansion capability for the future."

Using School Base, the Union City board could track staff and demographic data, salaries, assignments, and from there, the district could enter into a five-year salary contract with its employees - a first for the city. Now, through the use of FileMaker, the board could see a five-year projection and know what salary costs would be through that period.

Almost all major aspects of running a modern public school system are helped with Union City's FileMaker implementation. Field trips for classes, once mired in a flurry of paper forms, can now be proposed and requested online, with e-mails going to appropriate Board of Education and transportation department personnel to both approve the trip and schedule the use of a school bus. Attendance data from a telephone-entry system, used by the staff, is funneled into FileMaker for record keeping and analysis, and can be consulted when preparing employee evaluations.

The evaluations themselves, required between two and four times a year for each teacher, are now completed by principals and administrators visiting

each classroom, equipped with a notebook computer and wireless (802.11b) antenna. The evaluation is filled out on the computer and can later be accessed by administrators as part of a “teacher profile report” that covers every aspect of a teacher’s job; many of these records include a digital photo of the instructor.

Everett “Mac” McCassey, who heads FSA-member firm Schoolbase in Auburn, NH, and is in Union City for several days each month, said executives of the Board of Education are constantly amazed at how quickly he is able to fulfill their requests, sometimes within minutes or an hour, for new features or view of data.

In Union City, Mr. McCassey said, “they have better access to their own information, better control of it, eliminating duplicate data entry, and greatly increasing the accuracy of their information” thanks to FileMaker.

Aileen Silver of Possible SOLUTIONS Inc. in Monroe, NY, was instrumental in bringing Schoolbase to Union City, and has worked closely with Board of Education Human Resources Supervisor Michael DeNicola to help craft appropriate solutions that meet particular needs.

One system in which Mr. DeNicola was involved allows the Board of Education to track professional development activities for teachers, each of whom is required to accrue 120 hours of credit every five years.

Using FileMaker, the school system is able to relate the professional development activities to each teacher’s work assignments, and can also measure the impact of these programs on student achievement.

In cases where teachers and other staff perform additional duties (after-school classes, lunchtime supervision, etc.), administrative staff can enter records for each work, which can then be approved with an electronic signature by principals. The pay records then feed into both the board’s payroll and budget systems.

As a matter of fact, the Union City Board of Education will, this year (2002), have its budgets into state officials on time, prepared largely with FileMaker, before the numbers are transferred to state-supplied spreadsheets.

“Quickly we are able to use FileMaker by pulling in staff data, insurance data, benefits, etc., to develop 95 percent of the budget in FileMaker,” Mr. Dragona said. “It’s a database but it’s friendly enough to develop calculations.”

Where some in the school system may have been skeptical about the power of FileMaker to deliver for a demanding, decentralized school system, the Union City Board of Education now firmly believes in the power of a single software package to change the way it does business. Mr. Dragona is an active member of FSA, a regular at the annual FileMaker Dev Con (developer’s conference), and is evangelizing others in his administration to tap into FileMaker’s multidimensional capabilities.

“My feeling is, if you can dream it, FileMaker can do it,” he said.

Anthony Dragona

Business Administrator

Union City Board of Education

Tel.: (201) 348-5677

E-mail: adragona@union-city.k12.nj.us

Preparing Lesson Plans for Bering Strait School District

A progressive, non-traditional school district on the Alaskan frontier uses a specialized FileMaker Pro-based data management system to prepare standards-based lesson plans, and automatically report student progress in both conventional, and standards-based formats.

Bering Strait School District extends along the coast of the Bering Sea, close to the border between Alaska and Russia. The district consists of 16 schools spread out over a series of small villages, and educates approximately 2000 students from three Eskimo subgroups. The district manages the unique data-management challenges of this environment with GradeWrite, a flexible classroom information tool based on FileMaker Pro.

The remote location and diverse student body create unique challenges for Bering Strait School. "Although we're geographically about the size of Minnesota, the population is sparse," explains Educational Technology Coordinator John Concilus. "Our student population is 99 percent native, representing the Upaiq, Yupik, and Siberian Yupik Eskimo cultures."

Meeting federal and state requirements while at the same time recognizing the cultural distinctiveness of the student body requires a unique educational philosophy. "Our programs are standards-based rather than standards-referenced," John continues. "We don't use traditional A-B-C-D grading, and our students are not classified by grade levels. Rather, we assess student progress through a rubric-based system, classifying them as Advanced or Proficient or Developing. We also don't have traditional subjects—instead, our students are taught in various 'Content Areas', some of which may be traditional and some of which may focus on non-traditional topics."

While these unconventional strategies are effective, the district must also adhere to state and federal requirements mandating tracking and testing students using traditional grade-level systems. And it must also follow established guidelines for reporting on its compliance with Special Education requirements, and monitoring student progress on IEP objectives.

Translating the district's own specialized reporting system into a more conventional form for state and federal purposes requires specialized tools. "No existing off-the-shelf system had the flexibility we needed to prepare the needed reports," says John. "We've been using another product, but it didn't have the power or flexibility we needed to handle what we were asking of it."

The district turned to FileMaker Pro developer Robert Joseph of Vizmotion for help in creating a solution. "We contracted with Vizmotion to create a FileMaker Pro product that would work with our unique standards-driven reporting requirements, and would allow our teachers to easily create standards-driven requirements," John relates. Working in conjunction with the Math Learning Institute, Vizmotion created GradeWrite—and within a year, more than half the district's teachers signed up to use the new application.

“Our teachers aren’t statisticians, but using this FileMaker Pro-based system allows them to create reports that use detailed statistical techniques to assess student progress, while also retaining the ability to generate reports according to more conventional grading systems.”

—John Concilus, coordinator of Educational Technology, Bering Strait School District

The FileMaker Pro-based GradeWrite application is valuable in everyday classroom settings. “When creating assignments our teachers can use pulldown menus to select standards for each new assignment,” details John, “and they can use the system to generate graphical displays of how each student is doing. Those reports can be generated under different methods of grading depending on the specific reporting requirements. No other gradebook program out there offered the sort of flexibility we needed to do the job.”

FileMaker Pro’s ease of use simplifies a complex task. Reports generated in GradeWrite are automatically translated into formats that meet state and federal requirements—a process which would otherwise require extensive paperwork and cut into vital classroom and lesson-planning time. “Our teachers aren’t statisticians,” John concludes, “but using this FileMaker Pro-based system allows them to create reports that use detailed statistical techniques to assess student progress, while also retaining the ability to generate reports according to more conventional grading systems.”

John Concilus

Coordinator of Educational Technology
Bering Strait School District
907-624-4237
jconcilus@bssd.org
<http://www.bssd.org>