

NAIKU CASE STUDY



CASE STUDY: BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

FINDING THE RIGHT NEXT-GENERATION ASSESSMENT SOLUTION

Blessed Trinity Catholic High School serves approximately 1000 students in Roswell, GA. Part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta, Blessed Trinity Catholic High School is a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School. In 2015 the school implemented a 1:1 Chromebook program. With the school-wide rollout of the new technology, the school leadership team desired to find an online assessment platform for its teachers and students.



School Goal

Blessed Trinity Catholic High School desired to move from paper-based testing using bubble sheets to testing on the Chromebook. Jason Podhorez, Computer Systems Administrator, recalled, “We wanted to move to online testing. We looked at about 10 different alternatives.” The school wanted a system that was all web-based. They wanted a system that teachers could use for day-to-day classroom quizzes as well as larger summative assessments. They wanted a system that would allow them to use their existing test and item banks. They also wanted a system that was integrated with PowerSchool (their student information system). “Naiku met all of our requirements,” added Podhorez.

BT Catholic HS Fast Facts

Located in Roswell, GA

Part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

Serves students in grades 9 - 12

2014 National Blue Ribbon School

~ 1,000 students

~ 80 teachers

Next-Gen Assessment Platform

Naiku is more than an online assessment platform. Many online assessment platforms digitize traditional print assessments to save time on scoring. They don't provide more functionality to improve assessment, enhance student learning, and aid instruction. What schools really need to look for is a next-generation assessment platform.

Beach (2012) in a blog post on Scholastic.com provides some guidance when searching for a next generation assessment solution. “Evaluate whether the assessment solution you're considering does what *you need it* to do rather than what it says you need,” advised Beach, who also provided the following questions as part of a checklist:

- Is it intuitive for your teacher's use?
- Does it provide richer data that's easily shared?
- Does it facilitate teacher collaboration?
- Does it help increase student-teacher feedback?
- Does it engage students beyond the traditional assessment experience to accelerate learning?
- Does it aid personalization of learning?
- Will the platform adapt and grow with your needs?
- Will its developers welcome feedback from users and make every effort to stay ahead of the users' needs and challenges.

Assessment System Requirements

Work with Chromebooks

Integration/Sync with SIS (PowerSchool)

Easy to use

Easy to collaborate and share

Uses of Naiku

Daily quizzes

Formative Assessments

Summative Assessments

Teachers have created 2,000 assessments

Teachers have created 14,000 Items

Students have taken over 20,000 assessments

NAIKU CASE STUDY



Naiku Use at Blessed Trinity Catholic High School

Since adopting Naiku at the start of the 2015-2016 school year, use of Naiku has flourished across the school. At the end of February 2016, Blessed Trinity Catholic High School students have taken more than 20,000 tests. Teachers have written more than 14,000 items and developed more than 2,000 assessments. "It's gone great!" reported Podhorez. "Overall, teachers are using it. Typically, teachers will back off if something is not working. The fact that they're still using Naiku is good."

Instructional Technology Coordinator and Business Education teacher Brent Hollers agrees. Hollers uses Naiku in all of his classes. "I use passages, constructed response items, multiple-choice items, and matching items. There are no issues," reported Hollers. "In this first year, we're in the mode of converting things to online. We can now share our exams easily with colleagues who teach the same course. Next year, we'll do more and use more of the Naiku features to engage students."

For everyday quizzes, the teachers typically use MC items for quick scoring and feedback. They also use T/F, Matching, and short Constructed-Response items.

For some formative assessments, teachers have used extended Constructed-Response and Essay items to get deeper and more information about student thinking. This gives them the best data so that they can give constructive feedback to the student to impact learning.

Theology teacher Fr. Augustine Tran likes the ease of use with Naiku. He likes being able to quickly create his own test questions right in Naiku, using a variety of item types. When asked how his assessment practice has changed since switching to Naiku, Fr. Tran responded, "I give more short daily assessment to make sure the students are staying on top of the material instead of waiting until the test to cram." Fr. Tran's students like seeing their grades right away. "They also like typing out their essays, which is easier than handwriting them."

"As I said, it's gone great," summarized Podhorez. "This summer, we're looking forward to upgrading our Power Teacher gradebook. With that, the teachers will be able to push scores directly from Naiku into the gradebook. Our teachers will love that."

	Aug '15	Sep '15	Oct '15	Nov '15	Dec '15	Jan '16	Feb '16
Tests Taken	3330	4608	4412	2791	1908	2720	3185

TRANSFORMATIVE Naiku Educator Spotlight

Fr. Augustine Tran began teaching in 2004. He teaches Theology classes: Sacraments and Apologetics at BT Catholic High School. "I enjoy working with this age group, sharing my knowledge, and seeing light-bulbs go off in their heads as they start to understand material," said Fr. Tran. "I also love learning and teaching is the best way to learn." Before using Naiku for short daily assessments to help students stay on top of the material, Fr. Tran used paper and bubble-sheet assessments. He even tried using Google Forms for a semester. Now with Naiku, Fr. Tran likes that "it only takes a few minutes to make a short assessment in Naiku and have it ready for the students to take. Grading is also very quick and easy in Naiku." He also likes not having to take papers home to grade any longer. He can grade from his home computer. "The grading rubrics make it very easy and fast to grade essays."



Fr. Augustine Tran
Theology Teacher