

From Manual to Digital

Lucia Mar Unified / San Luis Obispo County, CA

20
SCHOOLS

10K
STUDENTS

40%
SOCIOECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED

12%
ELL

District Overview

Lucia Mar Unified School District, located on the California Central Coast, is the largest school district in San Luis Obispo County. Serving nearly 10,000 students from Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Nipomo, Oceano, Pismo Beach, and Shell Beach, it's situated right between Santa Maria and San Luis Obispo. They're proud to partner with community colleges, universities, and local organizations to expand their students' education opportunities and increase their success.



The Challenge

Running expanded learning programs at 14 schools, Lucia Mar was using spreadsheets for registrations. Given the dozen-plus school sites, this meant many different spreadsheets to keep track of and use for program planning. The manual work load was high without any automated or streamlined registration system. This aspect of their programming was taking too much of their team members' time.

Our Solution

Lucia Mar liked their processes, but they wanted a tech tool to streamline them. Hero ASSIST was a great fit. The ActivityHero team partnered with the district to better understand how they did registrations manually and to customize the Hero ASSIST workflow to mimic their manual systems. For example, when Lucia Mar families registered for programs, they submitted applications, not enrollments. To maintain that, Hero ASSIST launched an application process for their programs, instead of registrations.

“We began using ActivityHero for real-time attendance, a more efficient registration process, and to have a program that connected with our SIS. Shilpa and her team listened to our challenges and adjusted as we needed.”

- Wendy Bruse, Coordinator of After-School Programs

Lessons Learned

Don't be afraid to let go of old processes and embrace new ones. As the ActivityHero/Lucia Mar partnership has grown, we've learned that to save even more staff time, some additional systems need to shift. For example, though the digital application process saved time, Lucia Mar staff still needed to go through each applicant's profile manually to determine if they're a student who gets prioritized enrollment.

Instead of continuing with this time consuming process, we offered a digital solution: Hero ASSIST rolls out lotteries at each student priority level. This system will eliminate countless hours of manual work.

