

## Improving Results with Interwrite™ St. Francis Indian School, South Dakota A Case Study



Ryan Holy Eagle, a middle school math teacher at St. Francis Indian School, had been looking for ways to make positive changes to enhance his method of instruction. His students didn't seem to pay full attention during his classes and the disruptive behavior made it difficult for other students to pay attention to the lessons being taught. It also didn't help being located in the rural plains of South Dakota on the Rosebud Indian Reservation. The location limited the school's exposure to all of the advances being made in educational technology. They were still working with chalkboards and overhead projectors, equipment Ryan

thought to be outdated.

On a gut instinct, Ryan began looking for a solution that would help him reach his students more effectively. The ideal solutions were found when he saw the Interwrite Pad and Interwrite PRS (Personal Response System) at a conference. After further researching the products, Ryan petitioned the Rosebud Sioux Tribe's Tribal Education Fund for financial assistance with the purchase of the products. His request was granted.

### Winds of Change

In addition to the behavior problems, Ryan also noticed that his students were not performing very well on his weekly quizzes. The scores were as low as an average score of 20-percent.

After installation of the products and the accompanying Interwrite Software, Ryan began using the Interwrite products on a daily basis. The wireless Interwrite Pad allows him to move around the classroom while teaching material from his computer 20-feet away. The free range of motion provided him with the ability to walk to a student's desk and sit with them individually and work through a problem while still accessing his computer for additional resources. When he is done teaching a lesson, Ryan assesses whether his students understood the concepts by asking them a practice question using Interwrite PRS.

**“They are too interested in learning to even think about acting up in class. It is like day and night.”**

### Better Scores and More Time

In six weeks of use, Ryan's eighth-grade students increased their weekly quiz scores to 90-percent. They have also increased their math performance by two Stanine Points. “The technology gives students a way to instantly apply the concepts they learn,” says Ryan. “I can see them running the numbers through their brains as they work on the practice questions.”

In addition to the test scores, Ryan has also seen an improvement in behavior. “They are too interested in learning to even think about acting up in class. It is like day and night,” said Ryan.

And the students aren't the only ones benefiting from the Interwrite Pad and Interwrite PRS. Ryan now has more time for teaching because he is no longer being bogged down with having to collect and grade papers. Interwrite PRS has eliminated the guessing game in trying to determine if his students understood the concepts being taught.

Simply put, Ryan notes that, "this is what technology is supposed to be about."



### **About Interwrite Learning:**

Interwrite Learning(tm) is a leading provider of interactive learning solutions. Our Interwrite Board is an extremely durable interactive whiteboard that includes thousands of images and resources to create dynamic and exciting lessons. The wireless Interwrite Pad allows you to teach from anywhere in the classroom creating an interactive whiteboard on any flat surface. Interwrite PRS is a powerful student response system that combines interaction and assessment to enhance classroom productivity. It allows teachers- from elementary schools to universities- to accurately and instantly assess student comprehension and quickly grade quizzes and exams. We are changing how the world learns with our Interactive Classroom solutions.

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