

eznetpay® Case Study: School District of Beloit

eznetpay® helped the School District of Beloit streamline management of its multi-million-dollar construction project and drive substantial savings for its mandatory school services.

INDUSTRY School District

BUSINESS DRIVERS

- Reducing costs to manage payment process
- Meeting growing project demands within budget constraints
- Keeping construction projects on-time

SOLUTION eznetpay, a cloud-based payment management platform

RESULTS

- Saved 1.6% of total contract costs
- Ongoing savings in excess of \$400,000 within the first 24 months of operation
- Savings decreased expenditures
- Allowed the district to use same FTE through efficiency to manage the new referendum projects



ENGINEERING FINANCIAL EFFICIENCIES



BACKGROUND

The School District of Beloit, a family of 7,000 students and 900 staff, was embarking on one of the largest construction projects in its history. The district wanted to reconfigure itself to decrease the number of times students would transition to different buildings and increase students' success. The district was moving from having a pre-K center, buildings for kindergarten through grade 3, buildings for grades 4 through 5, a middle school for grades 6 through 8, and a high school for grades 9 through 12 to a model with six elementary buildings for pre-K through grade 3, four intermediate schools for grades 4 through 8, and a high school for grades 9 through 12.

ANALYSIS

The project would include the construction of a new intermediate school, and renovation and additions to eight elementary and middle schools. To manage the flow of paperwork created by the project, the district would need to dedicate at least one full-time employee from its construction and planning departments.

The district was facing growing pains between managing the construction payments related to the reconfiguration and its rapid growth (gaining approximately 100 students per year in enrollment). Larger campuses, increased student enrollment and more building space meant more costs for things like janitorial services, snow removal and supplies.



The district realized that additional manpower would be needed to handle the payments, coordination and paperwork for its ambitious construction projects and contracting services. It began looking for an automated solution.

SEARCHING FOR A SOLUTION

The School District of Beloit had already secured funding for its construction projects and contracting services so when representatives of eznetpay demonstrated the eznetpay platform for them, they were able to witness firsthand how much money they would save while modernizing the payment process for the school district's services and construction projects. **The district chose to benefit from:**

- Automated Construction Payment
- Prompt-Pay Discounts (PPD) for school services

THE EZNETPAY EXPERIENCE

Once the school district decided to move forward with eznetpay, the benefits were immediately apparent. They were pleased with how easy it was to get eznetpay up and running in less than two weeks. Because eznetpay is a cloud-based solution, school district employees didn't have to worry about managing new hardware, software or networking technology.

Once their installation was complete, the district began to see how much simpler their project management had become.

By implementing eznetpay the district was able to automate their:

- Collection and central storage of documentation
- Payment-approval process
- Process for procuring lien waivers
- Procedures for materials stored
- Retainage and electronically track it

The district was especially happy with the quick PPD approval process because they were now able to take advantage of prompt-pay discounts from several of their vendors. The win-win partnership for the district and its vendors was illustrated by the quality of goods and services the district received for prompt payment. In turn, the vendors increased the value of their payments due to the time value of money.

In addition, **with everything kept in a centralized location, the district was also able to:**

- Archive and retain, in a paperless environment, all documentation for all projects put into the system
- Improve tracking of all work and documentation
- Allow for easier internal and external auditing

The School District of Beloit was able to save \$400,000 within the first 24 months by taking advantage of Prompt-Pay Discounts now that their payment process was streamlined by eznetpay.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Once eznetpay was implemented, the district was able to manage the payment process with in-house personnel in less time, so they could focus more time on their other primary responsibilities. **To date, the School District of Beloit has recorded an average of 1.6% for each prompt-pay discount, yielding more than \$400,000 in budget savings within the first 24 months of using eznetpay.**

