

# Statewide Kentucky Program uses Caspio to Streamline Academic Data Management



**Caspio Wins Against Excel, Access, SharePoint and Database.com— Over 500 Teachers at 79 High Schools Manage Thousands of Student Records via a Custom Caspio-Powered Web Application**

## A Growing Problem

AdvanceKentucky is a statewide math-science initiative dedicated to helping Kentucky's students reach new heights in rigorous academic achievement. Begun in 2007, this is a partnership among Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC), Kentucky Department of Education, the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) and several other sponsors. Success is measured by growth in students' participation in Advanced Placement (AP) courses both in terms of enrollments and Qualifying Scores in eligible AP courses. Accurate measurement requires that up-to-date data be maintained for AP students currently across 79 high schools in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The number of schools and records grows each year, and each record has to be edited multiple times throughout a given year by various persons at remote locations for centralized analysis and reporting.

Originally AdvanceKentucky was able to function by utilizing Microsoft Excel spreadsheets, but as the amount of data grew, so did the complexity of managing and analyzing it over multiple years. The system was moved to a Microsoft Access database, which worked well for a while but was unable to provide remote access or maintain strict confidentiality of records. AdvanceKentucky also evaluated other products including Microsoft SharePoint and Database.com, all of which proved to be time consuming,

### Company

AdvanceKentucky is an initiative by Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC), in partnership with private, federal and state entities to give high-school students access to college-level work.

### Industry

Education, Non-Profit

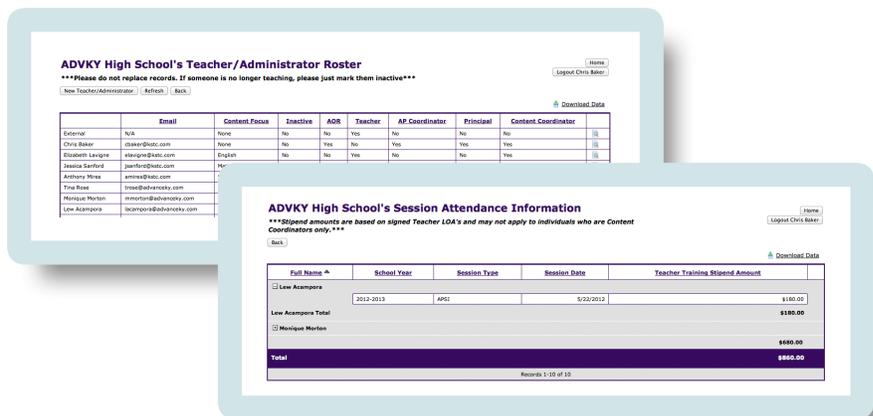
### Challenge

AdvanceKentucky needed a simple and secure way to reduce the complexity and amount of work required to maintain and analyze the tens of thousands of records for Advanced Placement students across 79 high schools in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

### Solution

Used Caspio to aggregate data and simplify the data management process, giving teachers, school administrators, and program staff the ability to remotely update data in real time while maintaining the ability to protect confidentiality.

[www.advancekentucky.com](http://www.advancekentucky.com)



\* Advanced Placement, AP and Pre-AP are registered trademarks of the College Entrance Examination Board.

AdvanceKentucky Data Reporting System (DRS) Powered by Caspio

## AdvanceKentucky Builds Remote, Secure Database with Caspio

expensive and complex. They eventually came to the conclusion that in order to meet their specific requirements, they had to consider a customized solution. However, the cost of building a custom application was cost prohibitive, estimated at \$50,000. The problem remained unsolved at one point until they came across Caspio.



“**Caspio allowed us to accomplish all of our goals and gave us great confidence knowing we can more easily manage an exponentially growing number of records.**”

**Chris Baker**, Director of Information Technology, Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation

### Caspio Delivers

AdvanceKentucky’s system had to give hundreds of teachers, and school administrators and program staff the ability to remotely access the web application in order to keep the data as current as possible. The system also had to be able to manage multiple levels of access control, allowing teachers and school administrators access to selected information based on their particular responsibilities. There were no pre-made solutions, and custom applications via traditional programming were too costly. Then they discovered Caspio. AdvanceKentucky signed up for a trial account and soon realized that their vision could now become a reality— quickly and within a reasonable budget. “Using Caspio we were able to launch our new solution with a minimal investment in time and money. Today, thanks to Caspio, we have an elegant solution that is limited only by our creativity and

time”, says Chris Baker, Director of Information Technology at KSTC.

AdvanceKentucky’s Caspio-based solution gives 500+ school administrators and teachers 24/7 access to the DRS database with the ability to generate and update real-time reports. Because of the Caspio platform, teachers and administrators now have the ability to run their own data analysis to help them better manage their responsibilities to the program. This has allowed AdvanceKentucky staff, whose work is largely remote, to be more efficient in managing the day-to-day success of the program.

According to Baker, “Caspio allowed us to accomplish all of our goals and gave us great confidence knowing we can more easily manage an exponentially growing number of records. With Caspio’s robust platform, we exceeded expectations of just giving users remote access to our database, and were able to create a solid and customized application. Caspio’s platform has allowed us to spend our time concentrating on serving schools and focus on student results instead of inordinate time with manual data manipulation fraught with the potential of human error.”

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**Chris Baker**, Director of Information Technology, Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation

### About Caspio, Inc.

Caspio, Inc. ([www.caspio.com](http://www.caspio.com)) is the world’s leading do-it-yourself online database and web application creation platform. The company’s philosophy is to empower business users to create and deploy web databases, forms, reports and applications easily and without programming. Caspio’s platform-as-a-service replaces coding with intuitive point-and-click wizards, enabling users to rapidly produce web database apps for capturing, publishing, and managing data online. Caspio shrinks development time from weeks to hours, and from thousands of dollars to a small monthly fee. Caspio’s customers range from one-person entrepreneurs to Fortune-500 corporations, digital media giants, government agencies, and educational institutions.

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