

Boston Public Schools



Teacher review and feedback system developed on iPad platform, used by school Principal and managers for paperless evaluation of teacher performance.

Educator Development & Feedback System

The Educator Development & Feedback System is the online educator performance evaluation system for Boston Public Schools. The purpose of the EDFS is to serve as a vehicle for educators and administrators to view and record every step of the evaluation process and to facilitate communication between educators and evaluators about opportunities for development. By housing performance and development information in one place, the district can facilitate more timely feedback and easier access to resources that educators will be able to access consistently throughout and beyond the evaluation cycle.

The Challenge

Senior management needed a tool which they could use as they went to attend a class of each teacher in the school, as a part of teacher feedback and evaluation. It would be difficult to go to several classrooms every day with a bulky computer or several sheets of paper. This situation demanded the use of some technology, perhaps with the use of an iPad, which is regarded as convenient to carry around and easy to record information.

Software Merchant

Software Merchant is well positioned in the Mobility segment of the outsourced product engineering market. They provide cost effective and efficient Mobile application solutions by

using best practices and employing a smart combination of experts from our worldwide pool of resources. We bring in local consultants with domain expertise to better understand the business and ensure seamless communication with our clients.

The Solution

Software Merchant developed an iPad application internal to the principal and staff at Boston Public School. This application would enable the principal or school managers to enter a class with an iPad and take notes to review educator performance. Each of the evaluators has their own login information which takes them into the application where they can enter data by scrolling to that particular teacher's page. All of this is being done without the use of any internet, hence making this an 'Online-Offline System'. Once the information has all been written down while being offline, it is saved on a central database, the SQL Lite Database, using internet.

The Benefits

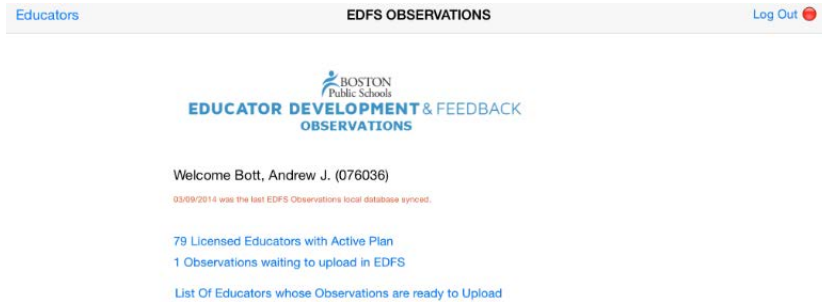
Along with saving precious time and paper, this application provides a platform for safe storage of important data for the school, which is used for crucial aspects like increments and promotions based on the teacher feedback.

Once information from the app has been saved onto the centralized database, the teacher is able to view this feedback online and provide her artifacts to support her work.

Online-Offline system means that internet is not required to input data, this could be very useful in a classroom environment without Wi-Fi.

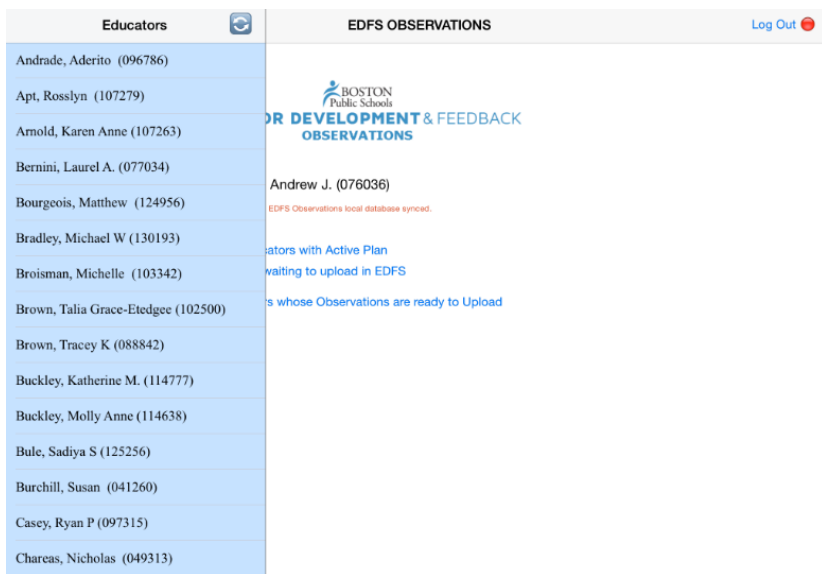
Appendix:

Exhibit 1: Home screen of Evaluator



The screenshot shows the 'EDFS OBSERVATIONS' interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Educators' and 'EDFS OBSERVATIONS', and a 'Log Out' button. The main content area features the Boston Public Schools logo and the title 'EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT & FEEDBACK OBSERVATIONS'. A welcome message for Andrew J. (076036) is displayed, along with a red notification: '03/09/2014 was the last EDFS Observations local database synced.' Below this, statistics are shown: '79 Licensed Educators with Active Plan' and '1 Observations waiting to upload in EDFS'. A link is provided: 'List Of Educators whose Observations are ready to Upload'.

Exhibit 2: Screen showing list of educators/teachers



The screenshot shows a list of educators in a table. The table has two columns: 'Educators' and 'EDFS OBSERVATIONS'. The 'Educators' column lists names and IDs, while the 'EDFS OBSERVATIONS' column shows the system status for each educator. The interface includes a 'Log Out' button and the Boston Public Schools logo.

Educators	EDFS OBSERVATIONS
Andrade, Aderito (096786)	
Apt, Rosslyn (107279)	
Arnold, Karen Anne (107263)	
Bernini, Laurel A. (077034)	
Bourgeois, Matthew (124956)	Andrew J. (076036) EDFS Observations local database synced.
Bradley, Michael W (130193)	ators with Active Plan
Broisman, Michelle (103342)	waiting to upload in EDFS
Brown, Talia Grace-Etedgee (102500)	s whose Observations are ready to Upload
Brown, Tracey K (088842)	
Buckley, Katherine M. (114777)	
Buckley, Molly Anne (114638)	
Bule, Sadiya S (125256)	
Burchill, Susan (041260)	
Casey, Ryan P (097315)	
Chareas, Nicholas (049313)	

Exhibit 3: Individual teacher's page to input feedback information

[< EDFS OBSERVATIONS](#) EDFS OBSERVATIONS [Log Out](#)

Name: Chareas, Nicholas (049313) **Department:** BPS Orchard Gardens K-8 Pilot **Job:** Teacher
Evaluator: Bott, Andrew J. **Plan:** Self-Directed - 05/15/2016

Observation (Not Synced)

Observation Date:	<input type="text" value="06/17/2014"/>	Observation Type:	<input type="text" value="Unannounced"/>
Start Time:	<input type="text" value="03:42 PM"/>	Subject Observed:	<input type="text" value="Test"/>
End Time:	<input type="text" value="04:42 PM"/>		

[Upload To EDFS](#) [Save Observation](#)

New Evidence Item Entry

[Add](#)

Evidence	Feedback
Test observation	Good

[Add Tag](#)

Tags: