

Case study: Sheboygan Area School District

How Best Buy® Education helped one technology coaching innovator with a virtual learning alternative solution for his school district.

The Client

Mike Jaber, Coordinator for Instructional Technology, Sheboygan Area School District, Wisconsin. As a K-12 veteran teacher and technology educator of three decades, Mr. Jaber is a pioneer in utilizing technology in his instruction. Deciding it was the perfect tool for educators, he partnered with Best Buy® Education to begin the first orders of Google Expeditions Kits to use across his district.

The Challenge

Mr. Jaber, and his six-person team of technology coaches and staff, was an early adopter of the Google Expeditions AR/VR platform shared across a district of 25 schools and 10,000+ students over a six-year period until Google announced that the app and platform was to be discontinued and no longer supported. The district needed a similar alternative that was as simple to implement, had an easy-to-use interface, and included a vast library of virtual and augmented reality explorations for educators.

The Solution

After having investigated several subscription-based and free services, Mike Jaber and team discovered ClassVR. It was the perfect immersive learning platform with the curriculum-aligned content they required, simple teacher controls to provide structured AR/VR content and lesson plans, professional development courses and more. "I initially ordered four headsets through my contact at Best Buy Education," says Mike. "Looking from an IT lens, it was as easy to set up as anything I've seen. Our IT department didn't need to get involved at all. It generates QR codes you scan with the headsets, then you're connected to your network, and it also automatically enrolls you into the ClassVR dashboard."

Once familiarized with everything ClassVR offered, Mike would once again look to Best Buy Education to fulfill the district's needs, as he further explains: "Thanks to our partnership with Best Buy Education, it couldn't have been easier, and it has far exceeded our expectations."

ClassVR also offers the advantage of customization. Students and teachers can create their own virtual videos with the use of a 360° camera. The content is then uploaded to the goggles to create a library of truly immersive experiences. "Classrooms throughout our district use this feature a lot," Mike begins. "It's endless what you can do with these, and what's also really beneficial is it's customizable. Students and teachers aren't bound by just what they have. You can create your own content. For instance, we wanted a student experience of what it would be like in a welding situation. So, we took the 360 camera on a field trip to the local college and recorded the instructor going through the welding techniques. We then



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— **Mike Jaber**, Coordinator for Instructional Technology,
Sheboygan Area School District

brought it back, uploaded it to the goggles and it was like they were there; like the instructor was talking right to them."

Mike adds, "But what makes this immensely invaluable and a no-brainer is ClassVR announced that anyone with the old legacy Expeditions hardware will be able to use them on this newly built platform, so you're able to create things with the old kit devices. Add in a vast library of augmented reality lessons with student control via toggles to zoom in and out, and it makes everything just that much more versatile and tactile. There's really not a box left unchecked with ClassVR."

"None of this would have been possible without Best Buy Education," Mike concludes. "They made coordinating everything with ClassVR a great experience...they took care of me from the beginning. Everyone on that team is just so awesome. If it wasn't for my Account Manager, I don't know that I would've delved into this because she's been so helpful in times when we've run into any issues. Either an email, a text or a call and they're there. I'm not treated as a number; I'm a person that they talk to and help when needed. Support on the back end has been just amazing. They are always there to make sure I'm being supported."



Scan the QR code to watch the ClassVR webinar