

KIPP LA participated in a study conducted by Charter School Growth Fund and Clayton Christensen Institute on Edtech Benchmarking. The report, titled *Schools & Software: What's Now and What's Next*, was presented at the Global Education Conference at Harvard University on Thursday 6/19. The goal of the report is for educators, vendors and policy-makers to better support technology in schools.

Alex Hernandez, co-author of the study [Schools and Software: What's Now and What's Next](#), summarized what K-12 schools want from software in a recent blog post:

The strategic use of software by public schools is shifting from a “nice-to-have” to a core driver of student achievement and organizational performance. Schools are deploying software to communicate with families, recruit and onboard teachers, create digital learning environments and much more.

In the new report [Schools and Software: What's Now and What's Next](#), Julia Freeland from the [Clayton Christensen Institute](#) and I analyze how thirty small- to medium-sized public school systems on the cutting edge of technology integration are using software--and, more importantly, what they want from the edtech industry.

Few school systems reported satisfaction with their ability to use software to manage important back office functions like finance or human resources. They often choose between a single, “one-stop-shop” solution with poor functionality, or an array of point solutions with better functionality but poor integration.

Education agencies are also more likely to mandate that school systems use certain finance, HRIS and/or SIS software in order to standardize compliance.

What school systems want:

- Software that **maps more closely to school systems' actual workflow and processes.**
- **Better integration between related functions;** For example, school systems struggle to integrate recruiting and performance management with their existing human resources software.

While the education technology market booms, school systems are wrestling with issues of software integration, data management and user experience. But these early adopters are demonstrating that software is a core competency of high-performing school systems now and in the future. (View the post in its entirety here:

<https://www.edsurge.com/n/2014-06-17-what-k-12-schools-want-from-software>)

The specific mention of PayBridge begins on page 16 of the report:

“KIPP LA Schools is currently in the process of implementing a solution that is being developed by PayBridge, a national provider of integrated payroll services. The new product will connect human resources, payroll, applicant tracking, and performance management across the organization. In developing this new product, KIPP LA Schools’ team evaluated three vendors for payroll and human resources (ADP, Paychecks, and PayBridge) and three vendors for performance management (ADP, Cornerstone, and

PayBridge). Ultimately, it chose PayBridge to develop the entire suite.”

EdSurge News (2014, June 17). What K 12 Schools Want From Software [Blog Post].
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