The Program

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) worked with experts from businesses and industries throughout the state to design their Simulated Workplace program. The initiative was created to assist schools in implementing workplace environmental protocols that align with West Virginia workforce requirements, including random drug testing, professionalism, attendance, and safety. Simulated Workplace is enhancing instructional delivery of career education and at the same time is creating a more engaged CTE student. The simulated workplace environment allows students to take ownership of their individual performance as it impacts the overall success of their education, while thriving in an authentic workplace culture. Simulated Workplace also encourages local business and industry experts to join onsite review teams to assist schools in meeting their workforce needs and expectations.

The Need

WVDE identified a need to design and implement a custom Accountability System to manage the Simulated Workplace Program. While there was no off-the-shelf solution readily available, WVDE did find functionality within QuadNet™, NOCTI’s delivery and program management system, that could be used to create the system. The goal was to create a web-based system to support delivery, program management, and customized reporting services for NOCTI's industry-based credentials.

The Solution

Using the NOCTI Client Services Center as the foundation, the system was modified to align to the requirements of the Simulated Workplace program. The system accommodates the following features:

- Add and manage companies (courses in the Simulated Workplace), teachers, students, and testing.
- Features are embedded in the system to assist in capturing details needed for the custom reports being created by NOCTI, such as school profiles, graduation year, number of years for program completion, comparison options across the school, district, region, and state levels, and much more.
- A Company Resource Center was developed for access by teachers. This portal displays program of study, company, student, test, reporting, and student recognition information for students to which the teacher has been linked.
- All system components including NOCTI's online administration system have been branded to display the Simulated Workplace theme in design, color, and terminology.

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