REDONDO BEACH
UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT

RBUSD is using SubSchool to help advance a mission-critical goal: fill every classroom, every day.

CASE STUDY

When Assistant Superintendent Nick Stephany joined Redondo Beach Unified School District (RBUSD) nearly a year ago, he brought a very specific goal to his new leadership role: fill every classroom, every day. This goal means that no student will ever miss an opportunity for learning because every classroom is led by a teacher who can consistently deliver on instruction - even when the teacher of record is unavailable. SubSchool plays a mission-critical role in accomplishing this objective.

With nearly 100 substitute teachers in RBUSD’s employee pool, Dr. Stephany and his team have embraced SubSchool as “a new, innovative way of approaching substitute training.”

“There’s nothing quite like SubSchool available, and nothing even remotely similar. To be a substitute, candidates must demonstrate basic skills alongside a degree, and even with these minimal requirements, finding substitutes is hard to do. SubSchool ensures we can support and retain substitute talent, while meeting our top-level goal of securing a consistent student experience,” Dr. Stephany continued.

As a previous site principal, Dr. Stephany has seen the many issues that can arise when a sub is unable to manage the classroom. “Getting in front of students is really hard, but there’s an immediate benefit with SubSchool. SubSchool offers a calming effect on campus by increasing a substitute’s, and ultimately a student’s, satisfaction. If a substitute and a student have a good day, both will come back again tomorrow,” he continued.

Redondo Beach
Unified School District
Redondo Beach, California

- SubSchool partner since 2022
- 10,000 students served
- 13 school sites

DR. NICK STEPHANY
Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

“SubSchool offers a calming effect on campus by increasing a substitute’s, and ultimately a student’s, satisfaction. If a substitute and a student have a good day, both will come back again tomorrow.”
Dr. Stephany first learned of SubSchool from his predecessor, Dr. Nikki Wesley (now RBUSD Superintendent), and then introduced it to his former district. The experience of implementing SubSchool at his previous district, and then taking over the “baton” at his new district, was nothing short of “super easy.”

“When I joined RBUSD, I took over the effort to scale SubSchool, which transitioned from a voluntary opportunity to a mandatory, immersive professional development requirement. This program is now an integral part of our district’s onboarding experience for substitute teachers,” Dr. Stephany shared.

“SubSchool is offered at a great price, providing subs with substantial training to effectively lead instruction in the classroom. It’s structured to allow for independent learning, boosting sub job knowledge and fostering a growing community of support. Launching it couldn’t be easier as Jessie (Substantial Classroom’s COO) takes care of everything. You’ll quickly see a significant benefit with this program.”

———

**FEEDBACK FROM REDONDO BEACH SUBSTITUTES**

“As an experienced classroom teacher, I found these courses to be wonderful. They will be very helpful to people who are beginning their journey as a substitute teacher.

It was insightful and reassuring to hear experiences of other substitute teachers, and it helped me reflect on my own.

**HOW WAS IT?** 9.1 / 10

**WILL YOU USE IT?** 9.3 / 10

To learn more, visit substantialclassrooms.org or email us at info@substantialclassrooms.org

See SubSchool in action: