



# **Santa Clara Unified School District Case Study**



Jarnet Garcia, The Silicon Valley Voice, June 2019, <<https://www.svvoice.com/santa-clara-unified-school-district-lead-free/>>.



“We chose Kahua for Education for its modern platform, allowing us to use the PMIS the way we work and need to manage our capital programs across Santa Clara School District. From specific workflows to managing multiple sources of funds, spending and costs, we are confident we can deliver to our students and our community next generation learning environments, on time and on budget.”

**Larry Adams | SCUSD Director  
School Bond Projects**



Santa Clara Unified School District (SCUSD) serves over 21,000 students ranging from preschool to adult education. The district is situated in the heart of Silicon Valley with 715 teachers and 905 staff supporting 28 schools in Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, San Jose and Cupertino, California. Its \$800M capital program manages improvements to facilities which include over 560 buildings, 430 acres of land and 2.5 million square feet of building area.

## Challenges

The previously used tool, Autodesk/ConstructWare, was **sunsetting** and contained 16 years’ worth of SCUSD’s project data. The district also had some specific objectives with its projects under heavy inspection by multiple stakeholders. Because SCUSD’s projects are funded by bonds, they must provide **specific reports** to the school board and government agencies.

## Requirements

SCUSD needed to migrate all its information from the previous system into a new [Project Management Information System](#) that would enable them to future proof on a technology platform that would fit their specific requirements today and scale with their growth and state requirements over the years.

It also needed an agile solution capable of adapting to evolving requirements of a diverse range of programs including:

- Construction of new classrooms, labs and school libraries
- Renovation to improve and modernize older facilities
- Replacement or repairs of deteriorating roofs, plumbing and electrical systems

The district had some **unique reporting requirements** set by the State of California. Along with all California public K–12 schools, community colleges and essential services buildings, SCUSD must certify its projects through California’s Division of the State Architect (DSA). Project certification consists of examining design plans and change orders to ensure they comply with all structural, accessibility and fire and life safety codes. These requirements are consistently checked for any issues before, during and after construction.

## Solution

Kahua was selected and trusted with the transition and migration of over 1 terabyte of data of both closed and active projects. Kahua performed this migration with **minimal to no disruption** to SCUSD's project execution. Users were able to get up and running quickly with a modern, intuitive user experience.

Custom forms and workflows were developed to fit SCUSD's unique requirements. Kahua's modern platform is **tailored** with:

- The Construction Change Directive (CCD) application is modified so that the DSA approval process can be managed in conjunction with other apps
- The Change Orders application is changed to a custom workflow to include reporting so the SCUSD's Board of Directors can review and approve
- Multiple reports track specific items, such as retainage at the end of the fiscal year

[Sources of Funds](#) was critical for SCUSD to implement because the district needed to track the exact appropriation and allocation of its funds. This application tracks spending and costs across multiple projects. Streamlined management enabled SCUSD to monitor availability and assignment methods for all funding sources.



"Kahua has been watching the [K12 industry](#) expand its requirements and increase construction. We want to anticipate these needs and evolve our efforts to support. Our understanding of education systems grew exponentially while planning this project, and we are looking forward to putting these best practices to use for other K12 districts."

**Scott Unger | Founder and CEO of Kahua**





## Why Kahua

**Flexibility:** Adapt to specific policies, regulations and processes to strategically manage any type of project or program mix

**Transparency:** Streamline audit processes and board project status reporting with real-time data and robust project controls

**Visibility:** Identify potential setbacks and prepare for changes to minimize risk and excessive cost of construction delays

**Compliance:** Simplify the process of managing multiple funding sources to avoid audits, penalties and loss of funding



### Choose Kahua

Kahua is a leading provider of capital program and construction project management software, enabling innovation that is changing the way that capital programs are planned and delivered. Global organizations use Kahua's collaborative solution to improve efficiency, lower costs and reduce project risk throughout the entire lifecycle of their capital programs. Our purpose-built solutions for owners, program managers and contractors enable rapid implementation that minimizes time-to-value and enhances user adoption. With the industry's only low-code application platform, customers can easily customize existing Kahua apps or even build their own new apps to run their business at peak efficiency today and rapidly adapt as business conditions dictate.

Learn more and request a demo today or email us at: [connect@kahua.com](mailto:connect@kahua.com)



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