# Making a Switch for the Better

What makes a great student information system?

That is the question Rachel Tally was forced to contend with last year. Rachel was a teacher at **Salem Lutheran School**, and she knew that the current approach was failing staff and students alike. At the time, Salem used one system for grades, student data reporting, and the front-end of the school's website, then exported grades into a second system to generate report cards. A third system was used solely for text messaging and a fourth for admissions and billing. On top of that, the grading system, Engrade, was scheduled to be discontinued the following school year.

Rachel faced the challenge of finding a system that could do everything the school needed, while also being affordable and – above all – reliable. While attending a Lutheran Education Association (LEA) conference, Rachel's administrative team was introduced to Gradelink.

Gradelink incorporated all of the must-have features essential to Salem Lutheran's operations into a single SIS. Furthermore, Gradelink's multi-platform compatibility was critical as Salem Lutheran was a 100% Mac-based school. Considering their options, the team at Salem decided to move forward with Gradelink.

"Looking back," Rachel says, "not only has the system worked well, but the customer service that we have received has been outstanding."

Between thorough staff training materials and exhaustive online tutorials, Rachel found that she and her staff were able to answer most of their questions without even needing to call their dedicated representative. She added, "for us, the previous systems were very unreliable. I want future users to know just how reliable Gradelink is and that if issues arise, they are very quickly resolved. We are raving fans!" O

*We'd like to give our thanks to Rachel Tally and Salem Lutheran School for allowing us to interview them about their experiences with Gradelink.*