

TestHound Success Story:

Creating Consistency and Confidence Across Humble ISD

At Humble ISD, coordinating assessments means managing testing needs across a district of nearly 50,000 students. For Katie Gomez, Julie Thomas, and Cynthia Stohs, that scale made consistency a persistent challenge, especially when it came to getting accommodations right for every student, on every campus.

As Humble ISD leaned on TestHound to bring structure to that process, it became the central hub campus coordinators needed to run a confident, accurate test administration.

The Challenge

Before TestHound became part of Humble ISD's broader assessment process, much of the work relied on Excel, FileMaker, and processes created and maintained by individual staff members. Julie Thomas, Coordinator for Student Assessment and Accountability, remembers it well.

“Before TestHound, we just used general Excel spreadsheets. Our high schools used File Share for organization. TestHound originally came in strictly for materials tracking. That was really the beginning of it.”

Katie Gomez, Lead Coordinator of Student Assessment and District Testing Coordinator, had seen firsthand how much work could go into managing assessment processes without a shared tool.

Before coming to Humble ISD, she worked in a district where staff devoted significant time creating room rosters, accommodation lists, signage, and spreadsheets that could be used with the state's testing vendor.

“There was a lot of time spent creating forms that looked streamlined and polished, plus room rosters and accommodation lists for test day. We spent a lot of time teaching people how to use Excel to do exactly what was needed to communicate with the district office and the state testing vendor.”

Beyond the time involved, relying on manual processes also created more opportunities for important information to be missed. As Katie explained, “With human error alone, the chances and the likelihood of an accommodation just not even being communicated go way up.”

At Humble ISD, the challenge was compounded by the range of experience among campus testing coordinators.

“At our secondary campuses, we have dedicated CTCs, people who have a certain skill set to oversee testing,” Katie said. “But, at the elementary level, the test coordinator role is often an additional responsibility assigned on top of someone’s primary role, and the skill set varies.”

Creating consistency meant giving each of them a process they can understand, repeat, and eventually manage confidently on their own.

The Solution

Rather than asking every campus testing coordinator to create processes from scratch, the Humble ISD assessment team built a shared approach that could carry from one administration to the next.

TestHound supported that approach by giving coordinators a consistent tool for organizing their work.

“Once they got it down for one test, because of our use of TestHound and how it shows up in all of our administrations. They felt very confident and ready,” Katie said.

Training was a major part of making that consistency possible. Training was a major part of making that consistency possible. Julie created a living manual with screenshots and step-by-step guidance that walked coordinators through tasks such as accepting alerts, creating test sessions, marking students absent, running reports, and preparing files for use in other testing systems.

Accommodations were another major part of that shared process.

“Organizing, communicating, and implementing accommodations is one of the core reasons we use TestHound. It’s become the center of how we manage that work.”

That central role mattered in a district Humble ISD’s size, where accommodation decisions involved testing staff, campuses, and special programs. Katie explained that those groups had ongoing conversations about accommodations throughout the year, including annual training that brought special programs and testing stakeholders together.

Having a shared tool gave those teams a consistent way to communicate and verify student needs as decisions were made.

Katie said the value of that consistency was ultimately measured by whether students received the support they needed.

“Getting the accommodations right is crucial, because that’s what’s important to our kids. Those things make a big difference and impact our students.”

TestHound also supported the team’s work with Cambium’s TIDE system. Julie explained that reports aligned with TIDE terminology helped coordinators identify the correct files for tasks such as rostering and test attributes.

The Results

For Humble ISD, the results showed up most clearly in the confidence of the people responsible for carrying out testing across the district. Cynthia worked with new campus testing coordinators each year and watched them move from learning the basics to applying the same processes across state assessments, district benchmarks, classroom assessments, and other campus needs.

It also allowed Katie, Julie, and Cynthia to spend less time teaching people how to create individual forms and spreadsheets and more time helping campuses understand the bigger picture of a successful test administration.

Katie described that balance when discussing accommodations. She explained that systems could make communication easier and reduce the chance of human error, but they could not replace the responsibility educators had to one another or to their students.

Beyond the day-to-day testing process, Humble ISD also valued the relationship it built with the Education Advanced team. For Katie, that responsiveness and sense of partnership were part of what made the experience different.

“I think it’s unique to find a close feeling between a district and a vendor,” she said. “We feel close to the company. That means a lot to us.”

For Humble ISD’s assessment team, the goal was to give campus coordinators the support and confidence to do their jobs well so that when testing day arrived, every student had what they needed.

The Product

[TestHound](#) is a comprehensive K-12 testing software and the only test coordination solution that integrates data from disparate systems into a single platform for efficient assessment coordination. By utilizing the efficiencies provided through the platform, tasks that could take several days to accomplish using alternative methods can be done within a matter of hours. TestHound empowers overextended school staff to efficiently and accurately coordinate K-12 assessments, allowing them to spend their valuable time on other priorities.



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