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SCHOOL BY DESIGN'S NEW ANALYTICS OFFERING HELPS EDUCATION LEADERS MAKE SMART RESOURCE DECISIONS

[12/12/2017, Waltham, MA] –This week at the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents Annual Conference, School by Design (SxD) officially launched a new offering—the Skilled Interpretation Audit—that helps education leaders make smart resource decisions for their teachers and students.

“Our Skilled Interpretation Audit solves a number of challenges for districts. It connects what is often disparate resource data in schools—time, students, staff, and courses—to create insights for more strategic and efficient decision making,” explains SxD CEO Andrew Joseph. “The offering is unique in that it applies what we call ‘lenses that matter’—optimizing teaching and learning, efficiency, and equity and access—to the data to show how current resource use is furthering—or blocking—these important goals for school systems.”

Working with education partners such as the Southern Regional Education Board, the Center for Reform of School Systems, and the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents, SxD already is helping school leaders answer complex resource questions and address pain points through the Skilled Interpretation Audit. This past summer, SxD worked with leaders from 20 innovative districts across 9 states to help them see the impact of their resource decisions and use the Skilled Interpretation Audit tools to investigate other resource options. And this fall SxD is working with an initial cohort of 11 districts to provide insights into their 2017/2018 school year data through the Skilled Interpretation Audit.

“In today’s world, it’s difficult to think you can add staff or gain more time without additional funding. But with School by Design you can,” states Dr. Tom Shelton, Executive Director of the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents. “The Skilled Interpretation Audit quickly shows you whether or not your resource decisions are supporting your instructional goals and helps you realize there are other ways to use your resources that you might not have considered.”

With the Skilled Interpretation Audit, school leaders have access to a unique blend of:

- Written insights and analytics into their current resource use;
- Customized coaching and analytics support;

- A variety of reports and tools for exploring resource options through the SxD platform; and
- Project support and technical assistance as needed.

“As a former Superintendent and Director of Research and Evaluation, I know that data in school systems can be overwhelming,” says Fran Rabinowitz, Executive Director of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents. “The SxD audit makes school data user-friendly and is incredibly valuable to superintendents and principals. It quickly helps you realize how to gain more time, save dollars, and use your staff differently.”

School by Design was founded by education leaders partnering with technology experts. “We started School by Design to help today’s education leaders make better, faster resource decisions for their teachers and students.” SxD board member Dr. Vicki Phillips explains, “The SxD team knows firsthand the challenges superintendents and principals face when it comes to strategic resource decision making. Until the SxD platform, data and information about district and school assets have been isolated. With the Skilled Interpretation Audit, leaders now can easily see how a decision in one area—such as time —affects another asset such as courses. And, the audit shows how all resource decisions work in concert to impact students and teachers.”

Each district is unique, so SxD doesn’t push a particular philosophy on resource allocation, instructional programming, or school design. Whether leaders just need to answer specific resource questions, navigate budget cuts, or are ready to take on school-level redesign, SxD helps leaders make the most effective decisions possible.