

Where K-12 tools typically overlap

Capability area	Overlaps with	Why redundancy happens	Representative tools (examples)
Student Information System (SIS)	Learning Management System (LMS), messaging, gradebooks	SIS vendors add LMS-ish workflows; LMSs sync grades back to SIS	PowerSchool (owns Schoology LMS), Infinite Campus (Campus Learning add-on), Skyward, Aeries.
Learning Management (LMS/Classroom)	SIS gradebooks; engagement/assessment apps; parent comms	LMSs include assignments, quizzes, guardian summaries	Google Classroom, Canvas, Microsoft Teams for Education, Schoology.
Classroom management (teacher view/control)	Web filtering, student safety/alerting, hall-pass	Suites bundle filtering + classroom control + safety	GoGuardian (Admin/Teacher/Beacon + Pear Deck), Lightspeed (Filter/Classroom/Alert), Securly (Filter/Classroom/Alert).
Web filtering & student safety	Classroom management; parent portals	“Safety suites” extend filtering into alerts, parent reports	GoGuardian Beacon/Admin, Securly Filter/Aware, Lightspeed Filter/Alert.
SSO & rostering	Identity/IDM, LMS provisioning, usage analytics	SSO/rostering platforms also report app usage	Clever (SSO + rostering), ClassLink (SSO + Analytics).
Family communications & mass notify	LMS announcements; website/CMS; autodialers	Districts often carry both a teacher app and a district-wide comms suite	ParentSquare (acquired Remind), SchoolMessenger (now PowerSchool), ClassDojo, Bloomz
Benchmark/interim assessment	Core curriculum suites; LMS quizzes	Vendors pair benchmark data with curriculum/PD; LMS has quizzes too	NWEA MAP (now HMH division), Renaissance Star; i-Ready Diagnostics.
Interactive instruction & formative assessment	LMS; engagement “apps”	Slide-based instruction tools overlap with quizzes/polls	Nearpod (Renaissance), Pear Deck (part of GoGuardian “Pear” suite), Kahoot!, Wayground (formerly Quizizz).
Device management (MDM)	Classroom mgmt; filtering	MDM handles policies; suites add classroom/safety features	Google Admin (Chromebooks), Jamf School, Intune for Education, Meraki SM, Mosyle.
Digital reading/library	LMS content links; analytics; parent access	Reading apps integrate with LMS/SIS; library systems surface the same titles	OverDrive Sora (LMS/SIS integrations), myON (Renaissance), Follett Destiny (integrates with OverDrive), MackinVIA.