



Elgin Community College  
Bright Choice. Bright Future.

## ECC is creating a fair and equitable learning environment from within D2L using ReadSpeaker

*“From an equity standpoint, we want to ensure that all students have the opportunity to access course materials in a format that meets their needs. There are so many students who can benefit from audio support—students who benefit from listening to course content while commuting to work and school, students who enjoy listening to content while exercising, students with learning disabilities, students whose native language is other than English, and many others. We are delighted that we can enhance the learning experience for those students and provide an inclusive, accessible, and equitable educational environment for them with ReadSpeaker.”*

**Pietrina Probst**, Director of ADA, Student Access & Disability Services, Elgin Community College

### About Elgin Community College

- Number of Employees: 1064
- Industry: Higher Education
- Year Founded: 1949
- Website: [Visit Website](#)

ECC is a comprehensive community college serving students at every stage of their educational journeys. ECC offers something for everyone, from university transfer programs to continuing education classes to childcare and arts center events for the community.

## Challenges

As more and more course materials began being posted online at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, students were expected to read large amounts of material online. ECC wanted to provide an opportunity to students, who had disabilities, experienced language barriers, were auditory learners, etc., to listen to text posted on Desire2Learn (D2L), their learning management system. They wanted to remove the barriers that those students experienced while accessing online text, so they began searching for a TTS solution to best serve their students. The employees within their Distance Learning department had heard of ReadSpeaker's integration with D2L and contacted ReadSpeaker to learn more.

## How TTS Helped

### Easily Embedded with LMS

ReadSpeaker seamlessly embedded within D2L, their LMS system, so students could easily select the "Listen" button to listen to text in D2L, including tests and quizzes. Products used include: webReader, docReader and TextAid.

### Fostered Accessible and Equitable Opportunities

The webReader and docReader tools fostered an accessible and equitable learning experience for their students.


### Created Efficiency and Saved Time

As a result of the webReader tool within D2L tests and quizzes, students who needed the audio support could take their tests and quizzes at any hour of the day on any day of the week, just like their peers who did not need audio support, thereby creating efficiency and saving the time that was typically needed to coordinate a human reader to read the test or quiz to them.

**Contact the ReadSpeaker team today to discuss how our education products can enhance your students' learning experience and learn more at [www.readspeaker.com/education](http://www.readspeaker.com/education)**

ReadSpeaker is a global voice specialist providing dozens of languages and lifelike voices. Using its own industry-leading technology, the company delivers some of the most natural-sounding synthesized voices on the market. ReadSpeaker uses next-generation Deep Neural Network (DNN) technology to structurally improve voice quality at all levels. ReadSpeaker is a subsidiary of the Memory Disk Division (MD) of the HOYA Corporation, with offices in 15 countries, and over 10,000 customers in 65 countries, providing a complete text-to-speech (TTS) offering, both as Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) and as licensed solutions. A fully integrated TTS provider, ReadSpeaker encompasses all of HOYA's state-of-the-art technologies (NeoSpeech, Voiceware, VoiceText and rSpeak), providing a wide variety of applications for varying channels and devices in multiple industries. ReadSpeaker gives a voice to businesses and organizations for online, embedded, server or desktop needs, apps, speech production, custom voices and more. With more than 20 years' experience, the ReadSpeaker team of experts is leading the way in text to speech. ReadSpeaker is "Pioneering Voice Technology".

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