



# CASE STUDY

WG Advisory is revolutionizing the IT consulting industry with **encasedIT™**, a first of its kind dynamic platform built on modern-cloud architecture and flexible infrastructure providing scalability and reliability.

For the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSB), delivering education in a digital age is about putting the needs of the students they serve at the heart of policies, programs, and the services they deliver.

*“The **encasedIT™** ICT Governance Portal serves as an exceptional tool for ICT strategic planning. It offers a robust framework for developing and tracking long-term strategic plans, ensuring that every step taken today paves the way for our organization’s future successes.” - Angelo Cortina, CIO, HWCDSB*

## Transforming Education Through IT Strategic Planning

Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSB) serves over 28,000 students at 56 schools throughout the Hamilton area. In an effort to effectively manage and utilize student data while ensuring seamless communication across all educational institutions, HWCDSB recognized the imperative need for a comprehensive IT strategy that drives digital transformation and supports improved learning outcomes.

Traditional IT strategic plans are hindered by several limitations, especially their failure to identify critical skills and resources needed for successful implementation, posing a substantial threat to project success. With WG Advisory's guidance, HWCDSB developed its first-ever IT strategic plan, overcoming funding constraints that often limit initiatives in the education sector. Leveraging **encasedIT™**, HWCDSB was able to establish and implement a clear roadmap for enhancing student outcomes, streamlining operations, and driving long-term growth while demonstrating value to the board.

### encasedIT™ Advantage



#### Live Interactive Dashboard

Gain real-time insights and take control of your IT environment



#### Data Visualization

Dynamic graphs illustrate trends and baselines, with easy-to-access scorecards a click away



#### Streamline Program Execution

Fluid programs with scheduled checkpoints ensure a collaborative and adaptive process

# Digital Transformation in Education

HWCDSD's technology infrastructure has struggled with inefficiencies, leading to wasted time and resources. As a result, HWCDSD faces significant challenges in managing its operations effectively, making it difficult for the organization to respond quickly to changing circumstances.

## Challenges

## Approach

WG Advisory collaborated with HWCDSD to gain a deep understanding of their current state posture and identify key areas for improvement. This assessment laid the foundation for a tailored IT strategic plan that would drive digital transformation.

To support this effort, WG Advisory developed a customized Academic Technology Architecture Model (ATAM) — a first of its kind framework tailored to meet the unique needs of a school board. This innovative framework enabled WG Advisory to develop a comprehensive and actionable 4-year IT strategic plan that aligned with the organization's goals and objectives.

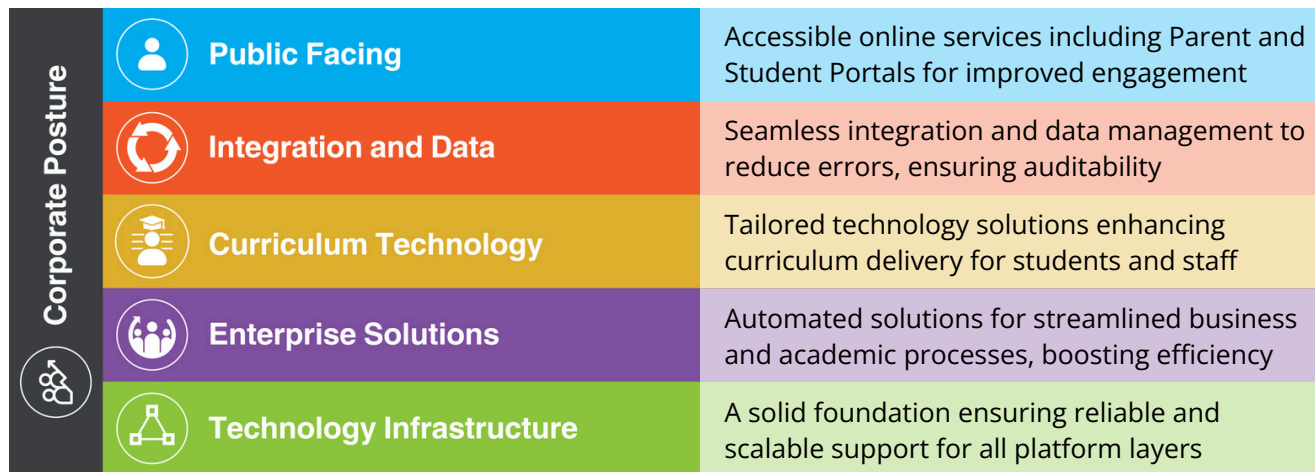
The **ATAM framework** categorizes elements into a series of questions, which are answered and rated using the **encasedIT™** maturity model, prioritizing critical areas.

Online Accident/Violent Incident Reporting		Work In Progress?	Element Average
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Good Shape
Category: Online Accident/Violent Incident Reporting (General)			
Questions	Response	Score	
1. Does the system meet Ministry requirements?	YES	4	
2. Does the system meet operational requirements? <i>Example: workflows, reporting, data integration</i>	YES	4	
3. Does the system meet current and future business needs?	YES	4	
4. Does the system have an acceptable TCO? <i>Example: capital and operational costs</i>	YES	4	
5. Does the system meet security requirements?	YES	4	

# Dive Into the ATAM Framework

WG Advisory analyzed HWCDSB's current state posture and prioritized projects to improve their position over the next four years, setting a target state that aligns with the school board's overarching strategy. A detailed project roadmap was created, breaking down each initiative into manageable tasks that can be tracked using the **encasedIT™** project management platform.

**A Framework Designed for School Boards** Each layer addresses core elements including both curriculum delivery and academic processes:



Each element is assessed and scored with a maturity rating based on a series of area-specific questions.

**ITSP ROADMAP TASK** | Task ID: 23-P-0037 | Initiative: STRATEGIC

**Project Details:**  
 Project Title: Annual Purchases | Priority: HIGH | Required Skills: SFIA  
 Element: Secondary Student Devices | Category: Secondary Student Devices (General) | Business Owner: ICT | Project Status: RANKED  
 Project Description: Annual Order of devices for grade 9 students. | Governance Review: YES

Year	2024	2025	2026	2027
<b>ELEMENTARY STUDENT DEVICES</b> (Elementary Student Devices (General))	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,200,000.00
<b>SECONDARY STUDENT DEVICES</b> (Secondary Student Devices (General))	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,200,000.00

**SFIA Skills Framework Integration**  
Users can add required skills for project delivery by integrating with the SFIA framework.

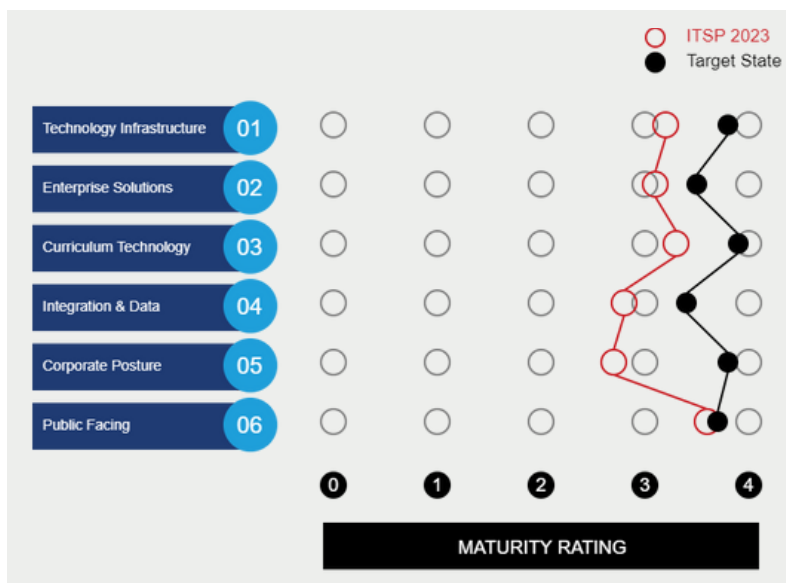
**Single Pane-of-Glass Dashboard**  
Manage the entire strategic plan lifecycle effortlessly with a unified dashboard.

## Outcomes & Benefits

With WG Advisory's IT strategic plan and use of the **encasedIT™** portal, Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School board is able to improve their current state posture and effectively manage the 4-year lifecycle of the recommended IT Strategic Plan using the first-of-its-kind ATAM Framework.

This interactive approach ensures the plan remains a dynamic tool rather than a static document, allowing for ongoing monitoring and adjustments to support HWCDSB's evolving needs.

## Performance Tracking and Visualization



**Dynamic Trend Analysis Visualization**  
Shows current posture and desired target state.

**Periodic Updates**  
Track progress towards the target state with regular updates.

**Downloadable Visuals**  
Illustrate progress with downloadable visuals for senior leadership.

## Who We Are

Technology without business application has no value.

In 2019, WG Advisory started the development of **encasedIT™** as a way to underpin the collaboration between business and information technology. We continue to unlock capabilities that include a live interactive dashboard acting as the central gateway to your organization's IT management program. Dynamic roadmaps, trend analysis graphs, and formal project governance tools provide IT leaders with the insight and vision required to keep up with the continued acceleration of digital transformation.

We ensure projects move from concept to completion.

**an** Created in partnership with The Arc Narrative  
marketing@thearcnarrative.com

## What We Do

Capabilities of **encasedIT™** include:

- IT Strategic Planning Developed on a Customizable Framework
- Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery Program Management
- Cybersecurity Program Management Built on NIST CSF v2
- IT Skills Framework Built on SFIA v9
- Cloud Maturity Assessments
- Information Management Maturity Assessments
- IT Maturity Risk Assessments
- Single Pane of Glass Dashboard Includes Roadmaps & Project Governance
- Intake for All Modules and Assessments

**CONTACT US:** info@wgadvisory.ca www.wgadvisory.ca