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**Brian Dravecz
Assistant Network
Specialist
Northampton Area
School District**

Cost-Effect Technology Solutions Support Learning at Northampton Area School District



The Northampton Area School District (NASD) is located in the heart of Eastern Pennsylvania’s Lehigh Valley. Covering nearly 100 square miles in Northampton County, the school district is comprised of five elementary schools, one middle school and one high school spanning three boroughs and four townships.

NASD is home to a sizable portion of the ever-growing Lehigh Valley area and currently serves a population of 5,500 students and 670 professional, administrative and support personnel.

Creating and maintaining a cohesive, connected network of technology systems that serves the evolving needs of the district and fosters a dynamic learning environment is the goal of the NASD Technology Services department staff and vendor partners like integraONE.

Technology Needs

In order to offer students and staff increasingly relevant technology, aging legacy systems needed to be replaced throughout the district, prompting an overall infrastructure upgrade. NASD Assistant Network Specialist, Brian Dravecz needed a solution that met budgetary limits and satisfied user demands at each building. Necessary upgrades included wireless networking, access layers and new switches to be implemented in a multi-phase installation process in each of the district’s seven schools.



Northampton Area School District Case Study



Even with Dravecz and his team of in-house technology professionals managing the installation process, a cost-effective solution for the required hardware purchases was a crucial element in formulating a viable plan.

An Established Partner

NASD had worked with integraONE before. "I am comfortable with the integraONE team," noted Dravecz. "We have a history, and I trust their expertise."

integraONE was chosen as the technology partner to supply the hardware involved in each phase of the NASD upgrade project. Dravecz was looking for innovative solutions that met his pricing restrictions, and he turned to the integraONE team for help.

"My initial plan and chosen product had us over budget," said Dravecz. "integraONE presented an alternative product with competitive pricing that worked for us."

Cost-Effective and Reliable - HP Networking

Based on pricing and guidance from integraONE, HP Networking became NASD's product of choice for the district upgrade project. Dravecz and the in-house NASD team handled the majority of the first phases of installation, relying on integraONE for support and information throughout the process.

"The HP Networking product is well-built and reliable. It's easy to configure and supports the overall goal we had for the project. It's a good value," reported Dravecz.

Several of the elementary schools and the middle school now have the new HP technology in place, with the remaining elementary and high school installations planned to begin in 2011.

Solutions and Expertise: Ongoing Support from integraONE

The NASD Technology Services department is skilled and able to oversee many of the district's needs without requiring large investments in labor services from outside vendors. The team's most common reason to reach out to integraONE is for product and pricing information, industry knowledge and ongoing support.

"I would describe the integraONE staff as friendly and knowledgeable," Dravecz said. "I rely on the quality support, creative solutions, competitive pricing and pleasant experience that integraONE delivers."

NASD is planning another major technology investment in spring of 2011. integraONE has already been contracted to provide product and service for that project as well. Dravecz is looking forward to it. "Great service is a rarity today, but I can always count on it from every member of the staff at integraONE."