



CASE STUDY: UPPER ST. CLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Extreme Networks Helps Connect School District With a Single Network

Technology Needs

- Connect a distributed environment with a single network
- Reduce time spent on day-to-day troubleshooting
- Futureproof for expansion and increased demand on wireless networks

Extreme Solution Components

- [ExtremeSwitching™](#)
- [ExtremeWireless™](#)
- [ExtremeCloud™ IQ](#)

“Wi-Fi should be as easy as writing on a chalkboard. It should just be in place and you don’t have to worry about it. Since installing the Extreme Networks solution, we don’t give a second thought to Wi-Fi.”

Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology, Upper St. Clair School District

“When you look at Extreme’s technology, like its programmable radios, I don’t know why that’s not an industry standard. It really gives Extreme an edge.”

Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology

The Upper St. Clair School District, located just outside Pittsburgh, is one of a handful in Pennsylvania that are part of the International Baccalaureate program. The school system serves about 4,100 students with its 6 schools and 600 teachers and staff. It is among the top three school districts in the state, with 96% Upper St. Clair High School graduates moving on to higher education programs.

In addition to its six schools, the school district also maintains a central office and bus garage, all of which need to be connected by a single network. When the district first installed Wi-Fi across its facilities in the early 2000s, it was running a Cisco environment, which wasn’t a satisfactory solution because of co-channel interference and other challenges engineers and support teams weren’t able to reconcile.

With eight buildings, more than 150 applications and systems, and students and staff – each with multiple connected devices to support – the district needed to be confident its network could accommodate both current needs and future expansion without having to troubleshoot every day. The district was already working closely with its IT partner Cerdant, and was very happy with its services and top-notch support. When the district learned Cerdant had partnered with Extreme Networks, it quickly chose Extreme to support its new network. All eight of the district’s buildings are now running on Extreme solutions, with additional plans to support further network expansion.



“I’m looking at my network monitoring screen right now and we just peaked at 1.5Gb – and everything is running as smoothly as ever”

Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology

Results



Outstanding Project Management and Support

- Extreme and Cerdant were highly engaged in project planning meetings, well before any technology arrived on-site, leading to a fast and simple implementation.
- Project planning, design, and implementation process made applying for and receiving E-Rate funding easy.
- Extreme and Cerdant provided outstanding ongoing support anytime the district has needed it – before, during, and after installation.



Reliable Network Infrastructure

- Extreme Networks’ switches and access points provide consistent, reliable connectivity across the district’s eight buildings.
- As many as 20,000 connected devices are able to access more than 150 advanced applications and systems with no network degradation.
- Extreme Networks’ programmable radios leverage AI to optimize coverage and performance.



Simplified IT Management

- Extreme’s single pane of glass network management gives the small IT team of seven people clear insight into what’s happening on the entire network at all times.
- Self-healing, self-adjusting network technology relieves much of the network management burden from the IT team .