Sunnyside Unified School District

All-in-One VDI Solution, One Support Line, 50% Savings in Time & Total Cost of Ownership

HiveIO

Case Study

The Sunnyside Unified School District is one of Arizona's largest and serves over 16,000 students. The district has a clear vision: Ensure every child is college, career and community ready. With a clear mission to develop students with a strong sense of identity, purpose and independence, the Sunnyside IT team needed a virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) solution that worked with them, not against them. They needed a solution that freed them from the daily maintenance and support of multiple vendors so they could focus on innovating for the district and the students.

Like many K12 school districts, the Sunnyside IT team was dealing with multiple different vendors on a traditional three-tier architecture for their VDI solution. This meant wasted time and resources spent dealing with separate vendors for compute, network and storage, and an inflated operational overhead due to tasks like interacting with multiple-vendor support lines.

As with the majority of VDI solutions deployed today, Sunnyside's previous VDI architecture resulted in an overly complex environment with many points of management that needed to be constantly monitored and maintained. The Sunnyside IT team spent almost 20% of their time managing the existing VDI infrastructure alone, which was impractical for their small team of 5. The environment also required a significant hands-on approach. For example, the previous VDI environment resulted in the Sunnyside IT team having to manage the system on a desktop-by-desktop basis, including a separate update system to keep desktops patched and secure. This, coupled with the schools' high level of uptime needs, considerably increased the total cost of ownership (TCO).

CHALLENGES

- Complex environment that was difficult to manage
- Separate vendors for computer, network and storage
- Multi-vendors led to multiple support lines
- Immense uptime needs led to increased TCO

Sunnyside Unified School District needed a solution that was easier to manage, eliminating the need for multiple vendors and multiple layers of technology. They wanted a single vendor that offered an all-in-one solution that could be deployed on top of any x86 infrastructure without the need for any proprietary hardware. Hive Fabric provided an opportunity to deploy a zero-layer VDI solution that removed multiple vendor requirements and complex licensing and simplified the deployment on bare metal.

HIVEIO PRODUCT

- Hive Fabric™

BENEFITS

- 50% TCO savings
- $100K savings on infrastructure costs
- Easier management
- Re-use existing hardware
- Single-line of support
- Eliminate the need for multiple vendors
- Seamless deployment in less than 24 hours
- Highly scalable to meet the demands of 16,300+ students, faculty and staff

Sunnyside Unified School District is the second-largest district in Southern Arizona serving more than 16,300 students and families. Sunnyside focuses on developing students with a strong sense of identity, purpose, and agency so that they leave the cycle as effective learners who act meaningfully to achieve the conditions they desire in their own and others' lives.

The school's learning community is flanked by an aerospace and innovation corridor, such that the district is positioned to lead students into the 21st century through excellence in pedagogy,

HiveIO transforms commodity data center equipment into a software-defined virtualization solution. Our Hyperconverged Fabric (HCF) platform delivers next-generation technology replacing the entire stack with the only zero-layer, hardware- and vendor-agnostic architecture on the market. The simplicity, performance, and security of our AI-ready Hive Fabric solution removes complexity from delivering today's workloads while

BUSINESS NEEDS

To meet increased demands and rollout new desktop applications, the Sunnyside IT team needed a streamlined solution that met several requirements, including:

- Simplifying a complex architecture
- Improving scalability
- Extending the life of existing infrastructure
- Managing the limited IT team resources to focus on innovation

SOLUTION

Hive Fabric™ was deployed on top of existing x86 infrastructure— replacing the virtualization, SDS, VM orchestration and VDI provisioning and access layers— with an all-in-one stack. The hyperconverged fabric platform simplified the Sunnyside data center and removed the need for traditional multi-vendor approach. Hive Fabric provides a VDI solution that works for Sunnyside, providing the Sunnyside IT team with more time to do what they are passionate about - working directly with staff and students to innovate and support the learning experience.

EASIER TO MANAGE / SINGLE LINE OF SUPPORT

After deploying Hive Fabric™, Sunnyside's operations went from spending significant time and IT resources on managing individual desktops and user profiles, to running a cost-effective VDI solution that provides the school district with persistent user profiles and easier management of desktop and system updates. The Hive Fabric deployment helped the school district meet its goals of reducing the complexity involved with managing a VDI environment, while improving performance at scale. The entire Hive Fabric solution can be managed through a single window, offering an all-encompassing view of how the data center components are connected and operating in real time.

LEVERAGE OF EXISTING HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

Since Hive Fabric is a vendor- and hardware-agnostic architecture, Sunnyside was able to deploy the new technology on top of its existing infrastructure, extending the life of the hardware, and removing the need for investment in proprietary new hardware, saving almost $100K.

Testimonial

"We selected HiveIO because we were looking for a VDI solution that not only met our performance requirements, but was also easier to manage than our existing multi-vendor platform. Hive Fabric allowed us to use our existing hardware, eliminate the multi-vendor approach and empowered us with a single point of contact for support. It moved us away from managing individual desktops to managing pools of desktops, freeing up our IT resources and allowing us to focus on delivering an even better experience for our staff and students. With HiveIO, we now have a VDI solution that enables us to scale as we need to better support our schools."

- Javier Baca - CIO, Sunnyside Unified School District