

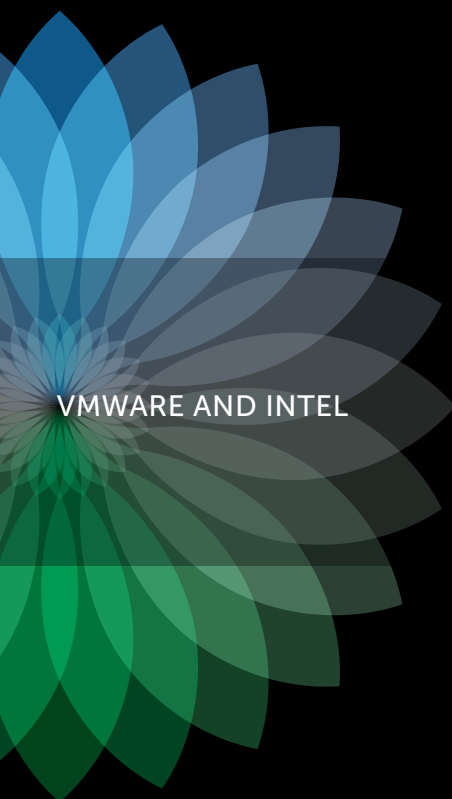


NORTHPOINTE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS | INTEL AND VMWARE PROVIDE MORE RELIABILITY, LESS DOWNTIME FOR COMPUTER SERVICES AT K-12 SCHOOL

Located in Grand Rapids, Michigan, NorthPointe Christian Schools serves more than 665 students through its preschool, elementary school, middle school, and high school. As with most schools, an array of computer services are provided for both administrative and instructional purposes.

In the past, the school's server infrastructure consisted primarily of "beefed up" desktop machines running a mixture of Windows Server 2003 and 2008. There were major problems of reliability, with frequent outages for both the administrators and students.

The Superintendent recognized that there was a problem and established an IT Advisory Committee to make recommendations for improving the existing IT environment and planning for future development. Among the recommendations was to replace the existing servers with an Intel Modular Server—a simple, flexible system that integrates storage, computing, and networking into one system—and use VMware vSphere to run applications and services as virtual machines.



VMWARE AND INTEL

SNAPSHOT SUMMARY

INDUSTRY
Education

CHALLENGE
Underpowered IT
infrastructure at K-12
school affects reliability
of computer services

SOLUTION
VMware vSphere running on
Intel hardware creates a reliable
and dependable platform for
IT services within school.

Installed by Real IT Solutions in a matter of weeks during summer break, the new virtual infrastructure of Intel hardware and VMware software was ready to go when school started in the fall. "Almost anything that has to do with running the school is being done virtually now," says Nicole Crawford, technology coordinator at NorthPointe Christian Schools. "There isn't anything that isn't being done virtually."



“The Intel Modular Server with VMware vSphere has met or exceeded all expectations. The administration, staff, students and support personnel are satisfied with the solution and the only ‘complaint’ is that this solution was not implemented earlier.”

Nicole Crawford

Technology Coordinator, NorthPointe Christian Schools

RESULT

Reduce technical support time by 85 percent.

“System maintenance and support costs have plummeted, with required technical support time dropping as much as 85 percent from last year,” says Crawford.

RESULT

Increase reliability of computer services to 99 percent uptime

“The most obvious benefit to the users has been reliability,” says Crawford. “Before the upgrade, system performance was always an issue: now, it is no longer a problem.”

RESULT

Use third party IT resources more effectively.

“The new infrastructure allows me to spend more time on value-added services,” says Adam Peterson of Real IT Solutions, who provides IT services to the school. “While I’m still very busy, my time is spent serving users and developing new applications rather than trying to keep the servers running, restoring lost/corrupt files, and so on.”

VMWARE AND INTEL AT WORK

VMware vSphere Essentials Plus, featuring:

- ESX Server
- VirtualCenter

Intel® Modular Server (MFSYS35) with four quad-core Intel 5530 processors and 96GB of memory.

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- Guest operating systems: Windows 2003, Windows 2008
- Virtualized Applications: Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe CS4, Open Office, NWEA TestTaker Application, Quickbooks (used by High School personal finance classes), Auction! (auction management software for annual fundraising auction), Meal Magic cafeteria management software, Microsoft Expressions Web

VMWARE AND INTEL



Copyright © 2010 Opus Interactive, Inc. All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2010 VMware, Inc. All rights reserved. This product is protected by U.S. and international copyright and intellectual property laws. VMware products are covered by one or more patents listed at <http://www.vmware.com/go/patents>. VMware is a registered trademark or trademark of VMware, Inc. in the United States and/or other jurisdictions. All other marks and names mentioned herein may be trademarks of their respective companies.