

CASE STUDY

Intel Unite® solution



The Intel Unite® Solution Promotes Student Collaboration and Active Learning in the Classroom

With the use of multiple screens that lend themselves to flexible spaces and wire-free collaboration convenience, Monticello Central School District promotes an active learning model in collaborative environments.

“With the Intel Unite® solution, we accomplish active and immersive learning. We have eliminated connectivity delays and simplified collaboration for students, faculty, and staff across a variety of devices and platforms.”

—Shelley Rossitto
Executive Director of IT/PD
Monticello Central School District

Located in Sullivan County, New York, the Monticello Central School District provides K–12 education to 3,000 students and manages six instructional buildings. Monticello is committed to helping students achieve academic success, practice lifelong learning, and become productive citizens through the development of inquiring minds, compassionate hearts, creative expression, healthy bodies, and service to the community.

After spending two years researching solutions for collaboration, Monticello chose the Intel Unite® solution as a simple, cost-effective, and robust option for seamless connectivity and real-time collaboration. As the district enters Year Three of its active learning plan, it is looking at more ways to enhance the learning environment by installing more PCs with the Intel Unite solution, using document cameras, and exploring other collaboration technologies.

Challenge

Monticello needed a robust solution that utilizes infrastructure services to allow both teachers and students to collaborate and would allow teachers to build content in 24/7 environments that lead to differentiated opportunities for students. Monticello sought an enterprise-class solution that could meet the demands of an education environment, be easy and cost effective to deploy, and require minimal intervention by IT staff.

Solution

The Intel Unite solution enables collaboration that can help students learn, research, contribute, and build content for real-life experiences using familiar technology. With the Intel Unite solution, Monticello faculty, staff, and students are now able to:

- Use multiple screens and enable the creation of learning communities.
- Enable more secure,¹ wireless content sharing so classes and meetings start on time.
- Integrate whiteboards, document cameras, and audio/web conferencing in the classroom.

All of this was accomplished using enterprise-class server components for K–12 learning environments that include a Microsoft SQL database, administration portal website, and client download landing pages.

“This comprehensive enterprise solution offers us security and easy management.”

—Shelley Rossitto
Executive Director of IT/PD
Monticello Central School District

An Improvement That Leads to Easier Collaboration

The Monticello District initially started with one classroom using the Intel Unite solution as a critical part of their intense, three-year process to enable active learning, a teaching strategy in which students are more engaged by participating in activities other than “simply watching, listening, and taking notes.” In Year One, during teacher training and content development, the district started exploring options for classroom architecture that would support the active learning initiative. For example, classrooms were set up with a few desks and three larger tables placed around the perimeter of the room. Small groups of six students, each with a tablet, would sit at each table equipped with a display that they could all project to in order to view shared information.

In Year Two, Monticello offered more collaboration and freedom to students so that they could build content and contribute to the learning process, supported by different furniture types and multiple screens. This improvement in the classroom environment required a paradigm shift in technology, with teachers ready to change the way they teach, including sharing classrooms. The Intel Unite solution was critical in the facilitation of these activities, without burdening the teachers with complex or difficult-to-use technologies as they made a shift in their teaching modalities.

The Intel Unite Solution: Simple, Secure, Robust

The Intel Unite solution is customizable, integrates with in-room solutions, and provides remote view and teacher control. The district selected the Intel Unite solution because it was an enterprise solution that offered an easily managed, secure network using Secure Sockets Layer Encryption.

Using a PIN code to protect meeting access, faculty, staff, and students can now connect immediately to displays and projectors without cables. This leads to fewer connectivity issues, more classes and meetings that start on time, and improved productivity. Any content on computers using Windows* can be easily accessed and streamed. Users can share multiple screens at the same time, and several people can annotate documents and files within the same session.

Conclusion

Monticello uses the Intel Unite solution to deliver the benefits of technology advancements to its faculty, staff, and students to make information easy to share. Newly created collaboration spaces link all screens and all products. Students can now get information from any device, and connectivity is simplified.

In addition, for students who are visually impaired or are easily distracted in a typical classroom environment, the Intel Unite solution allows access to all content in a less distracting way, without drawing attention to individual students. Also, by not depending on display adapters or being hampered by other connectivity issues, faculty/staff meetings and classroom instruction can start promptly, helping to facilitate the reclamation of instructional minutes.

For More Information

To learn more about the benefits of the Intel Unite® solution, visit: intel.com/unite.



1. No computer system can be absolutely secure.

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