> "Aerohive is the best network solution we've seen, it just works with everything. Besides eliminating all the network issues we were experiencing, our teachers and staff gained features and tools to integrate advanced technology in the classroom. Moving to a controller-less solution and overhauling our wireless network was simple and cost-effective, and Aerohive's seamless deployment and network management were a huge bonus for our District."
>
> **— Patrick Gittisriboongul, Ed.D**
> Director, Educational Technology and Information Systems
> Huntington Beach Union High School District

Huntington Beach Union High School District

Large School District Chooses Aerohive for Controller-Less Wi-Fi and Advanced Digital Instruction

About Huntington Beach Union High School District

Located in Orange County, California, the Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) includes six comprehensive high schools, one continuation high school, two alternative schools and the Huntington Beach Adult School. The District serves over 16,000 students and 1500 faculty and staff, providing services and instruction for the cities of Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley and Westminster.

The diverse District is known for its commitment to academic excellence, and in addition has a strong dedication to providing advanced tools in the classroom, including a strong wireless infrastructure, issuing Chromebooks to students and using Google Apps for Education.

Challenge

Several years ago, HBUHSD faced outdated legacy Cisco infrastructure. In order to meet technology needs and provide more comprehensive Wi-Fi, many schools installed consumer-class rogue access points, creating a temporary and inferior fix, without a sustainable long-term solution. There were increased needs from teachers, students and the District administration for better throughput and coverage and the District recognized it needed to provide a more comprehensive and robust Wi-Fi solution. In addition, schools were unable to use particular tools like video projection because of lack of bandwidth.

Through the refinancing of general obligation bonds, the IT team was able to take a broader look at its network needs and evaluated the current architecture and realized it did not want to invest more into the existing legacy system. Apart from not having the budget for additional controllers or Cisco access points, the IT team did not have a single technician who was Cisco-certified, so it did not make sense on many levels to stay with the existing architecture.

Solution

HBUHSD evaluated Cisco, Ruckus and Aruba before determining Aerohive was the best solution and the perfect fit for the District. With enterprise-class features built-in to the solution, as well as extensive capabilities and management functionality, the District also was pleased the Aerohive solution could be rolled out in a short time frame.

The District deployed Aerohive AP330s with plans in place for implementing the AP370 and AP230 802.11ac/n access points. Issues of coverage and throughput have been eliminated and the District is using Bonjour Gateway for wireless projection and management of Apple devices. With a 4 to 1 student to device ratio, teachers are using a variety of programs for classroom instruction and testing, and will implement Aerohive's TeacherView in the next year, giving faculty the capability of seeing what online resources students are using. The District is a heavy user of Google Apps for Education and the Canvas learning management system, all accessed through a robust Wi-Fi network.

The District can segment network access through multiple SSIDs, directing devices and users for optimum performance and control. The Layer 7 functionality allows HBUHSD to have greater application visibility and control, and with Aerohive APs acting as a firewall, this allows the District more granularity and security. HiveManager was deployed on-site and has been instrumental in managing the network across a large school district.

Why Was Aerohive Selected

- Controller-less architecture most feature-rich solution HBUHSD found on the market
- Significant cost savings incurred by moving to controller-less solution
- Education-specific tools and applications like TeacherView allow teachers to efficiently manage technology in the classroom
- Scalable and secure solution ensures seamless future growth and optimized network architecture