



CLIENT SUCCESS STORY



CUSTOMER BACKGROUND

University Lake School is a college preparatory school that supports preprimary students through grade 12. Small by design but rich in curriculum, their dynamic learning programs integrate academic, leadership, athletic, artistic, and service-learning experiences. Students thrive on a picturesque campus comprised of five buildings and multiple outdoor spaces including rolling greens and prairie lands that are abundant in wildlife.

While the school focuses on fostering deep relationships among students, teachers, and staff, COVID-19 disrupted their typical learning environment in 2020 and led to modifications in the way coursework had been delivered. This meant teachers who ordinarily worked with students on campus were now presenting lesson plans both in person and online. It also meant added stress on the school's outdated infrastructure. They needed a dedicated partner that could both strategize and refresh their network as quickly as possible.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Having outgrown their aging Juniper hardware, University Lake School was **dependent on a system that could no longer deliver the reliability or capacity they needed** to support both in-person and distance learners. Hardware would need to be replaced due to code, and a new system would need to be implemented to support teachers who were now tasked with media productions. To accomplish this, University Lake School chose American Digital after a glowing recommendation from a staff member who worked with the company at a previous position.

American Digital initially scheduled time with University Lake School to virtually discuss their situation and challenges. During this meeting, suggestions were offered for a short-term solution that could rapidly improve student/teacher interactions. A long-term solution was also posed to provide the most advanced network connectivity to support their community. Their main concern would be downtime, with learning already disrupted by COVID-19. But time was also of essence given the network had been failing daily. Teachers needed the ability to move forward on lesson plans and effectively connect with their off-campus users.

Ultimately, a network infrastructure refresh was chosen using Aruba Networks hardware and new access points. This would replace 80 percent of their wireless hardware, providing **coverage for all classroom interiors and allow teachers to connect with in-person and remote learners.** It would also introduce network accessibility for guest devices, including student and staff Chromebooks and phones.

THE RESULTS

American Digital and University Lake School chose a **convenient window of time during a long weekend to avoid class disruptions.** The first phase of installation was completed without a hitch, making the student environment readily available the following Monday morning. Impressed with their progress and problem-solving skills, the IT team at University Lake School plans to partner with American Digital and advance to the second phase of this project soon.

The next stage will provide expanded internet connectivity for all users by optimizing their two largest venues: the gym and the fine arts space. This second phase will give **multi-device connectivity refreshed and augmented coverage for their new outdoor learning spaces, undoubtedly improving the educational environment.**

UNIVERSITY LAKE SCHOOL & AMERICAN DIGITAL — THE PARTNERSHIP

“American Digital brought a breadth of talent and insight that outrivaled every other vendor we’ve worked with thus far,” explained Timothy Horner, Head of School. “The process was both smooth and expedient, from our initial conversations through implementation and testing.”

American Digital continues to work in tandem with their team to provide **IT and networking strategies designed to withstand anything that comes their way.** The IT team at University Lake School has named American Digital their preferred solutions partner, with plans for leveraging this partnership for ongoing projects in the years to come.




The American Digital team is happy to lend our expertise to assist you in solving any technical challenges to meet your organization’s specific demands and overall goals.

ABOUT AMERICAN DIGITAL

American Digital is a leading expert in digital transformation and has helped clients define and deploy technologies to support their mission-critical applications for more than 35 years. We embrace technology advancements and dedicate ourselves to providing expert consulting services that guide clients toward the ideal solution to meet their individual business needs. As more and more organizations, like Tuthill, look to shift their CapEx to OPEX and view IT as an operating expense, they call on us to better understand the many different options they have at their disposal. From hosted to hybrid or consumption-based solutions, American Digital guides clients toward the optimum solution and, through our managed services, are fortunate to also partner with those clients for the long haul.

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