SOLUTION BRIEF

NetApp solutions for education

Delivering education has changed. Managing your data has become more critical than ever before.

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A large Department of Education customer is using Azure NetApp Files to address virtual desktop performance issues that were negatively affecting over 10% of their users. Azure NetApp Files immediately improved the virtual desktop performance and restored performance and access for over 10,000 users.

Adapting to the New "Campus"

For months, schools around the world have scrambled to navigate the new realities of distance learning and remote working in response to the COVID-19 crisis. To protect students and staff, traditional primary/secondary schools and higher-education institutions have been required to shift to a virtual environment.

Now, as many campuses take cautious steps to open in the fall, primary/secondary schools and higher-education institutions must develop long-term plans for an uncertain future. The ability to securely deliver continuous access to student services and coursework through learn-from-home (LFH) and work-from-home (WFH) platforms—while keeping costs under control—is key to sustainability. Stop-gap solutions that are currently deployed can expose security vulnerabilities, introduce latency, and drive up costs over time. Now is the time for schools to assess and adjust their platforms to address those challenges.

Optimize for Today, Prepare for the Future

NetApp can help. For over 25 years, NetApp has helped thousands of colleges, universities, research institutions, and school districts develop and manage data in unique ways. We provide solutions and services to help you securely scale virtual learning and remote working environments up—or down—on premises or in the cloud. We can help you build a data fabric that simplifies how you manage, move, and protect data whether in a school financial system, high- performance computing research cluster, or Advancement customer relationship management (CRM) application. Only NetApp partners with all three of the world's biggest cloud providers—AWS, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud—to create a unified data management solution from your data center to the cloud of your choice. Industry-leading partnerships and proven, integrated solutions help reduce risk, accelerate deployment, simplify management, and lower TCO.

What is a data fabric?

A data fabric is an architecture and a set of data services that provide consistent capabilities across a choice of endpoints that span on-premises and multiple cloud environments.

A data fabric enabled by NetApp simplifies data management across the hybrid cloud—with a consistent look and feel on premises and in the cloud—to accelerate digital transformation. It delivers integrated hybrid cloud data services for data visibility and insights, data access and control, and data protection and security.

Our education solutions team can help you build and optimize your data fabric. To learn more, contact your account team.

A large university participated in a NetApp Storage Design Workshop that allowed them to implement a new data management solution with automated tiering. The implementation reduced total data storage costs by over 20%, and it reduced their storage footprint by over 50%.

Improve Data Security
Schools have quickly expanded applications in the cloud to support basic WFH and LFH services and provide access to critical Blackboard, SAP, Oracle, and Office 365 applications. These applications can hold a treasure trove of sensitive personal data that must be protected from unauthorized access.

Our education solutions team can help assess where you are today and how you can take advantage of the NetApp® portfolio of solutions to improve the security of your data and performance of your applications while lowering your TCO. Integrated security features reduce vulnerability to cyberattacks and ransomware, maintaining the security and privacy of your data wherever it resides.

Increase Application Performance
Many schools have experienced performance issues that affect at least 10% of their users daily in their WFH and LFH environments. Performance issues prohibit delivery of critical learning and administrative services and increase the amount of time required to deliver the services. Amid uncertain tuition and budgetary constraints, schools must develop digital systems, tools, and processes to deliver the performance that users need without disruption.

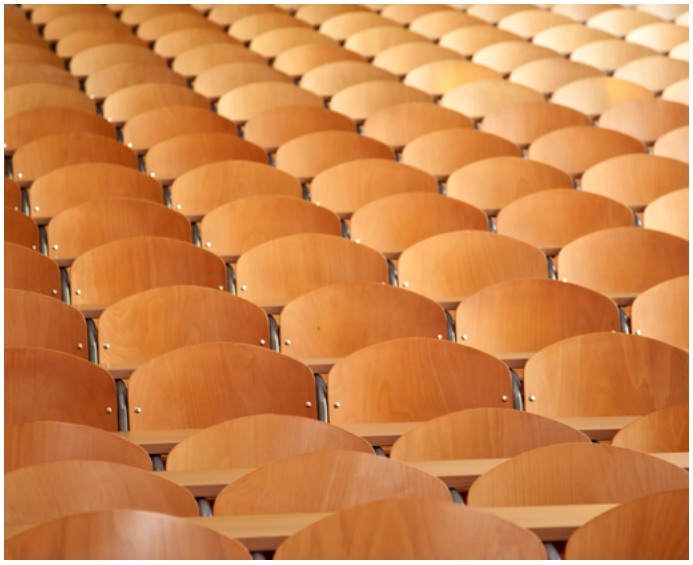
NetApp can help improve your application performance by deploying all-flash technology and harnessing software-based data efficiencies. Regardless of whether your application is on premises, resides in the cloud, or is available as a service, NetApp has solutions that deliver high performance at scale for your application end users.

Control Costs in the Cloud
Although public cloud solutions can offer immediate access with no up-front capital investment, the long-term cost of storing data and applications in the cloud can quickly spiral out of control, putting extra strain on already uncertain budgets.

NetApp solutions can help simplify and automate data management to improve IT economics, both on premises and in the cloud. We bring our 25 years of innovation in data management to the cloud service provider experience. Built-in efficiencies such as data deduplication and compression can help you lower your annual storage costs by up to 35% and reduce your storage footprint by as much as 50% or more.1

Get Started Quickly
NetApp has virtual desktop solutions that support on-premises, cloud, or hybrid architectures to address immediate requirements. We can get involved now to help you optimize your current WFH platforms to improve performance while lowering costs.

A large university uses NetApp OnCommand® Insight to analyze and manage their data requirements for on-campus and off-campus users. With proactive capacity planning and cost management, OnCommand Insight has allowed this university to realize a 35% decrease in annual storage costs.



NetApp cloud solutions enable you to quickly build and deploy secure, public cloud-based workspaces. Azure NetApp Files and NetApp Cloud Volumes Service help you manage Windows Virtual Desktop and other shared storage resources across cloud vendors and regions so that applications perform consistently for all students, faculty, and staff.

FlexPod® VDI includes all the hardware components you need to deliver virtual desktops, applications, and even full computing lab environments to your students. Simple and secure, FlexPod VDI lets you start small and then scale to support your entire campus—locally or around the world.

NetApp HCI supports more complicated remote educational environments, including those that require remote access to high-performance computing environments and 3D applications such as computer-aided design (CAD). You can mix, match, and scale storage and compute resources to meet the needs of all students. You can also run virtual desktops, 3D applications, and other workloads side by side with industry-leading performance.

Next steps

- Visit our Remote Learning Resources page
- Explore NetApp cloud data services
- Try Azure NetApp Files
- Contact your NetApp sales representative or inquire about a Storage Service Design Workshop

About NetApp

In a world full of generalists, NetApp is a specialist. We're focused on one thing, helping your business get the most out of your data. NetApp brings the enterprise-grade data services you rely on into the cloud, and the simple flexibility of cloud into the data center. Our industry-leading solutions work across diverse customer environments and the world's biggest public clouds.

As a cloud-led, data-centric software company, only NetApp can help build your unique data fabric, simplify and connect your cloud, and securely deliver the right data, services and applications to the right people—anytime, anywhere. Learn more at www.netapp.com.

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