5,300+ STUDENTS GAIN 1:1 IPAD ACCESS PLUS BYOD SUPPORT WITH ARUBA'S WLAN AND CLEARPASS

BENEFITS:

- Provides over 5,300 students 1:1 access to Apple iPads and supports approximately 300 Apple TVs

- Adopted ClearPass Policy Manager to provide centralized control and role-based access to support the 1:1 iPad initiative and BYOD.

- Blanketed district with high-performance Aruba wireless network of 450 APs and redundant Mobility Controllers for high-availability

- Includes Aruba AirGroup to support Apple's AirPlay wireless connectivity

- Enables 21st Century personalized learning environment to prepare students for college and career

To build on its rich history of educational "firsts" Fraser Public Schools sought to take the 1:1 computing and BYOD concepts a step further. It envisioned giving the majority of it students Apple iPad access, making the over 5,300-student district one of the 15th largest K-12 iPad deployments worldwide.

The challenge: Fraser needed to implement wireless networking across its campus for anytime, anywhere connectivity.

"We wanted to develop a 21st Century personalized learning environment that was flexible, creative and open," explains Kris Young, Director of Educational Technology and Information Systems at the 12-building Fraser, Michigan district.

"To create this learning environment, we decided mobile devices were the best fit for our curriculum," she adds. "And to achieve the ideal environment, we needed to replace our few existing WiFi hot spots with district-wide wireless infrastructure serving all buildings, including non-instructional facilities."

To get the job done, Fraser engaged with Aruba, along with the technology integrator Delta Network Services, in the summer to engineer the wireless network. The iPad rollout was set to begin when the 2012-2013 school year started in the fall.

According to Young, the external technology teams met the challenge. "It was a true partnership," she says. "Aruba Networks, Delta, and Convergent Technology Partners went above and beyond as well as being with us every step of the way."

In addition to approximately 450 Aruba access points and redundant controllers for high availability, the project also called for deployment of Aruba's AirGroup and ClearPass Policy Manager.

With AirGroup supporting Apple's AirPlay wireless connectivity for the district's approximately 300 new Apple TVs, ClearPass Policy Manager centralized device control and enabled role-based access.

"ClearPass and AirGroup were critical for allowing us to grant proximity-based access to our Apple TVs," Young says. "Both students and staff are now using Apple TV and they absolutely love it. Students and staff have the ability to project their work for the entire class to see using Apple TV, truly transforming the classroom into a collaborative learning environment. "

"Aruba's ClearPass, AirGroup and a district-wide wireless network were critical for creating our iPad-enabled 21st Century personalized learning environment."

– Kris Young,
Director of Educational Technology and Information Systems,
Fraser Public Schools

IT staff are equally pleased with the new infrastructure and management software. "We are thrilled," Young enthuses. "The administrative tools are crisp, clear and easy to use by everyone on our technology team."

Other benefits of the Aruba system include exceptional ROI over the long haul. "During the bidding process we received proposals from other manufacturers, but Aruba seemed the most robust and cost-effective, particularly when comparing them over the long term."

Another Aruba advantage is extensive Apple iOS support. "Due to the creative and collaborative nature of iPads and Apple devices, our new curriculum drove the need to migrate the entire district from a PC environment to an Apple environment," says Young.

"At the time," she continues, "iPads hadn't been on the market very long. Plus we adopted the Apple Bonjour infrastructure, Apple TV and etc. So, Aruba's iOS support was critical to ensuring all of the pieces worked well together."

Beyond the district-issued staff and student iPads, MacBooks and iMacs are also available to Fraser students. In addition, teachers and administrators have MacBook Pro laptops.

"Before Aruba, mobile devices were rarely used," Young says. "After rolling out wireless and the iPads, our view of mobile devices and BYOD really changed. Now, every classroom is device-centric. Any mobile device – whether an iPad or a BYOD – is just considered another tool in the toolbox."

Fraser's Aruba network also enabled leveraging the cloud for productivity solutions, "We've moved to Microsoft Office 365, enabling students and staff to get to their email, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and OneNote anytime, anywhere," Young says.

In short, Fraser is preparing students for whatever follows. "Whether its college or their first job, we're providing a blended learning environment for them to gain exposure and experience," says Young.

"Our Aruba wireless infrastructure, combined with our mobile device initiative and other technology tools available throughout each classroom, offers our students a new world of opportunities," she adds. "I can't wait to see where we go from here."

ABOUT ARUBA NETWORKS

Aruba Networks (NASDAQ:ARUN) is a leading provider of next-generation network access solutions for the mobile enterprise. Its Mobile Virtual Enterprise (MOVE) architecture unifies wired and wireless network infrastructures into one seamless access solution, enabling entities of all sizes to securely address the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) phenomenon, dramatically improving productivity and lowering capital and operational costs.

Based in Sunnyvale, California, Aruba has operations throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific regions.

To learn more, visit http://www.arubanetworks.com or get real-time updates on Twitter and Facebook. For the latest technical discussions on mobility and related solutions, visit Airheads Social at http://community.arubanetworks.com.

www.arubanetworks.com

1344 Crossman Avenue. Sunnyvale, CA 94089
1-866-55-ARUBA | Tel. +1 408.227.4500 | Fax. +1 408.227.4550 | info@arubanetworks.com