



# High-Performance, High-Capacity Wireless Network Delivers Comprehensive Campus Mobility To Bedminster Township Public School



## Case study

### SCHOOL STATS

- Students — 550
- Staff — 60 Teachers
- Full-time Child Study Team

### INDUSTRY

- Pre-K-8 Education

### CHALLENGES

- Poor wireless network performance
- Questionable wireless network security
- No centralized control of switching and wireless assets
- High operational expenses (OPEX)
- Uncertain — and expensive — upgrade path

### PRODUCTS UTILIZED

- Extreme Networks Summit Switches
- Extreme Networks Identifi Wireless Controller
- Extreme Networks Wireless Access Points (APs)

### RESULTS

- Improved wireless coverage, performance, and security
- Support for a wide range of wireless devices
- Lower wireless OPEX and higher ROI
- Centralized control of switching and wireless assets
- Defined upgrade path for scalability and performance

## Introduction

Bedminster Township Public School is a Pre-K-8 school located in Somerset County, New Jersey with an enrollment of around 550, a staff of over 60 teachers, and a full-time Child Study Team.

The Bedminster Township Public School is dedicated to instilling a passion for learning and exploration in a creative, nurturing environment. Their students enjoy a wide range of educational programs and activities including inquiry-based science, advanced level math courses, honor humanities and science, art technology, algebra, library media technology, technology and world languages.

The infusion of technology into daily lessons and across all curricular areas provides students with many opportunities to enhance 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and utilize the latest technologies as meaningful and effective educational tools to better prepare them for the technological world in which we live.

## Bedminster School’s Technology Challenge

A school district is responsible for deploying technologies that improve the productivity of teachers and administrators and offer learning opportunities for students. Increasingly, these technologies surround mobility, or the ability to conduct school business anywhere, anytime using tablets, modern smartphones, and other mobile information devices.

*“PBG Networks made a great recommendation in Extreme Networks Wireless solution. The specifications of the Extreme equipment meets or exceeds Cisco specs and the cost savings allowed us to do upgrades to our virtual infrastructure. PBG Networks oversaw the entire implementation of both projects and provided outstanding support .”*

**-KEVIN PICKETT, BEDMINSTER SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY MANAGER**



Key to providing mobility is establishing a robust and reliable wireless network capable of servicing hundreds of devices while guaranteeing rapid response time and safeguarding sensitive data from loss or theft.

The first wireless solution implemented by Bedminster Township Public School failed to satisfy the school's needs. The solution was slow, adversely affecting student and staff productivity, and failed to integrate wireless and switching services into one readily manageable package.

As a result, Bedminster Township Public School engaged **PBG Networks** to design and deliver a solution that featured high performance wireless access; single-pane-of-glass style management flexibility; sufficient scalability to accommodate future mobility demands; and low, predictable maintenance costs.

## Bedminster School Achieves Mobility Goals

To achieve the Bedminster Township Public School mobility goals, PBG utilized products from Extreme Networks, a leader in software-driven networking solutions, to fashion a replacement network, combining 5 Extreme switches, a wireless controller, and 40 wireless access points (APs).



The Extreme Networks wireless network effectively replaced the existing Bedminster Township Public School network, realizing the performance and cost objectives set by the school and facilitating wireless access and security. A radius server and Microsoft Active Directory were employed to regulate handheld devices, and Microsoft Active Directory was invoked to control laptop security.

## Bedminster School's Benefits

By virtue of replacing their wireless network with an Extreme Networks solution, the Bedminster Township Public School was able to dramatically enhance campus mobility options, enabling staff and students to access school information and information systems with speed and confidence.

In addition, the Technology department was able to operate their new wireless and switching resources as a single, low-cost, expandable entity.

## Concluding Remarks

Bedminster Township Public School credits PBG Networks for helping achieve the school's mobility goals. **According to Technology Manager Kevin Pickett**, "PBG Networks made a great recommendation in Extreme Networks Wireless solution. The specifications of the Extreme equipment meets or exceeds Cisco specs and the cost savings allowed us to do upgrades to our virtual infrastructure. PBG Networks oversaw the entire implementation of both projects and provided outstanding support."