

IBM 1:1 Services for Schools: Linking technologies goes to the head of the class



Schools across the U.S. and around the world have embarked on large-scale “1:1” projects to equip each student with a computer. The goals of these initiatives couldn’t be more important: improving student performance, enriching the learning environment, enabling teachers to do more with fewer resources, and many more. And yet the results of many of these efforts show that providing each student with a computer is only one step – and an optional one at that – on the way to using the full power and efficiencies of today’s technologies to respond to today’s toughest challenges in education.

Successful 1:1 computing programs are driven by holistic visions that couple technology’s power with the unique, often interrelated needs of students, teachers, administrators, parents, taxpayers, and local communities.

Highlights

- *Overcome limitations of unconnected, underutilized laptops and PCs*
- *Gain from IBM’s broad experience in integrating education technologies within and beyond the classroom*
- *Streamline teacher access to new instructional content and productivity tools*
- *Shrink the “digital divide” and strengthen communication with parents*
- *Reduce costs by linking new and existing technologies*

Enormous returns can flow from technology initiatives designed to address today's broad challenges and opportunities, and challenge programs to do more than equip kids with electronic word processors and Internet access.

Dodging the pitfalls

For most school systems, the roadblocks lie not so much in acquiring that ambitious vision but following through on it. The same challenges that technology can help meet—Federal mandates, outdated curricula, perennially strapped budgets and others—by necessity command the attention of administrators. There's no scarcity of hardware and software companies offering assistance, but most focus on narrow needs and specialized, standalone products.

IBM is different. We have teams of experienced educational consultants ready to help you plan, implement and even manage comprehensive solutions aimed at *your* educational and administrative objectives, not our internal hardware or software sales goals. In fact, our portfolio of case histories includes numerous projects incorporating technologies from both IBM and non-IBM leading suppliers.

By working with other industry leaders such as Intel,[®] we can leverage its collaboration with government leaders and educators worldwide, and deliver technology innovations such as Intel Centrino™ mobile technology to the classroom. Teachers can customize the learning process and pace to fit individual styles and abilities, and get immediate feedback for quick adjustments to meet the needs of diverse students. Students can engage with dynamic content in exciting ways, including real-time information not contained in textbooks.

The long-tenured leader

IBM's far-reaching 1:1 computing capabilities are based on 80 years of experience in helping schools and universities in every area related to student achievement—strengthening teacher skills; putting proven, research-based curricula into action; drawing parents and communities into the educational process; building flexible technical foundations; and providing administrators with more effective leadership and management tools.

What brings many schools to IBM is our unmatched ability to put round pegs into square holes—to make seemingly disparate technologies work smoothly and seamlessly together. For example, IBM could help you link individual classroom networks to an existing districtwide system so that the latest updates to digital textbooks could be instantly distributed. Or we could show you how teachers throughout your district could collaborate electronically on common tasks and issues, no matter what type of hardware they're using.

No need left behind

Just as every student is different, so is every teacher, school and school district. Solutions need to be based on individualized requirements, with the flexibility and resiliency to meet evolving needs far into the future. That way, positive results and paybacks come much more quickly, and last longer into the future.

IBM consultants see the process of implementing 1:1 computing as a continuum. It begins with teachers and students, extends to parents and ultimately embraces districtwide computing and management. Within that continuum, each school or district will have its own starting point and path to success.

In addition, IBM's comprehensive, customized approach to 1:1 computing extends to helping users at all levels receive the training and support that individualized assessments show are needed to achieve program goals. IBM can also help administrators relieve system maintenance burdens and remain focused on their educational missions via 24/7 helpdesk support, security, backup and recovery capabilities, parts upgrades, loaner hardware and more.

1:1 x >300 = unequalled IBM capabilities

Schools that work with IBM to make 1:1 computing projects more productive and cost-effective gain from our track record of more than 300 customized 1:1 implementations in recent years. We offer extensive resources ready to assist you in:

- *Goal-setting and planning*
- *Device selection, financing and support*
- *Wireless connectivity*
- *Information storage, backup and recovery*
- *Security and privacy*
- *Curriculum content and integration*
- *Standards implementation*
- *Faculty and student training*
- *Help desks*
- *Community collaboration and support*

- *Professional development*
- *Internal and external communications*
- *Program assessment*
- *Financing plans*
- *Project management*

IBM 1:1 computing implementations have succeeded with schools of all sizes in all types of communities. To present just a few of hundreds of examples:

- *IBM used wireless technologies to link the 3,200 computers of a rural Texas school district for about half the cost of using fiber optic technology. Students can now access advanced learning tools and collaborate on projects.*
- *Teachers in one of Arkansas' largest school districts are now equipped to fulfill their state's annual requirement of 60 hours of professional development via courses accessed through their wireless notebooks, which also improve their interaction with students and streamline administrative duties.*

- *A 230,000-student school district in Florida used IBM to improve student performance, track teacher effectiveness and simplify administration with an IBM-customized solution. As one official notes, "Fingertip access to student data at the individual school level in a manageable form allows us to make better decisions for our students."*
- *IBM researchers are working with a North Carolina school district to develop an expansive "community of learning" to break down the traditional time and distance barriers among home, school and community. Teachers, parents, students and community members now use communication and collaborative tools to enrich the educational experience.*
- *IBM helped an Illinois K-8 school system use advanced data analysis to identify areas for improvement ranging from classroom management to food services and transportation. IBM also helped the district align its curriculum with world-class standards by collecting data from 16 countries.*

"Fingertip access to student data at the individual school level in a manageable form allows us to make better decisions for our students."

Making it affordable

IBM's experience extends to helping schools over the financial hurdles that can unnecessarily constrain 1:1 projects and limit their chances for success.

We can assist you with the institutional purchase vs. student purchase decision, and walk you through a variety of purchasing, leasing and financing options. IBM Global Finance can construct a plan that reflects your budget realities and cash flow. We can even advise on the many public and private grants that are available for 1:1 computing efforts.

For more information

IBM is ready to help your 1:1 computing initiatives achieve the breadth and connectivity to truly enrich and transform the educational experiences of your students. Find out more about our 1:1 Services for Schools offering and the many advantages of working with our Education consultants by contacting your IBM representative, or visiting:

ibm.com/industries/education



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