Searching for a fast, reliable storage system

Overview

The Princeton Public School District, located in Princeton, New Jersey consists of six schools that educate students from K-12th grade. The school district is rapidly expanding with approximately 3,500 students and over 350 staff members.

In the school district, the educators work closely with one another to form a healthy learning community for students. They support the highest levels of teaching and learning by uniting individuals and organizations across the community.

The district encourages and guides students to live with purpose, exampled in their motto, "Learn to live, live to learn".

Challenge

The school district is responsible for tracking and storing confidential information for every faculty member and student. With the increasing number of staff and students in the district, the files need to be securely protected, easily accessible, and effortless to manage.

"With the growing district, creating a reliable internal storage solution was necessary for faculty members and students," Instructional Technology Support of the Princeton School District, Gabe Shackney, said.

The RAID systems that the district previously used were time consuming, difficult to manage, and did not have the flexibility of mixing and matching different brands and sizes of hard drives.

Solution

Princeton Public School District became aware of Drobo while discussing their

storage complications with the Hopewell School District. After conducting research, the Drobo B1200i, a 12 bay unit with iSCSI SAN, best suited the district because of the large volume size and backup optimization fit for small to medium businesses.

Challenge

Princeton Public School District is responsible for collecting and securely storing confidential information for faculty members and students. Their previous RAID storage array was difficult to use and manage. It was essential to find a storage solution that could be easily accessible, while also providing secure data protection.

Solution

After researching different storage arrays, the school district found that the Drobo B1200i was the right solution for their data. It provides the ultimate data protection, while also allowing for an optional file share space within the district. The speed and ease of use from Drobo increases their productivity and extends their peace of mind.

> **❝** *The Drobo B1200i is the perfect fit for our district,"* *Shackney said. "It's fast enough for our growing database and we feel secure using it.* **❞**

The Drobo B1200i is a high performance, reliable, and self-optimizing storage solution with server virtualization, email, and data protection. Expandable to 96TB, the Drobo B1200i is a simple solution to protect the district's files and provides an optional file share space for the faculty and students. It protects against multiple hard drive failures and automatically re-layouts the data, returning to a protected state without disruption.

"We were looking for an iSCSI SAN storage array with high speed and the B1200i fits the bill," Shackney said. "It also saves time by having fewer devices to manage and it simplifies the process."

Although the Princeton district used other RAID storage in the past, Drobo astounded them with the blazing fast speed, ultimate data protection and ease of use.

Results

The district has elevated their productivity and data protection with the high performing Drobo B1200i. They are able to easily store important information and backup their servers.

"The Drobo B1200i is the perfect fit for our district," Shackney said. "It's fast enough for our growing database and we feel secure using it."

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