

ARUBA NETWORKS CUSTOMER STORY | EDUCATION

MOUNT WAVERLEY SECONDARY COLLEGE

Mt Waverley Secondary College deploys Aruba high performance enterprise mobility solution to support 4000 devices



Established in 1964 and located in Mount Waverley, Victoria, Mount Waverley Secondary College encompasses both a junior and senior college campus catering to 1400 students from Years 7 to 12. The College's commitment to providing its community of learners with a supportive environment that challenges each student's thinking everyday, has enabled the College to be consistently one of the top achieving state schools in Victoria, for the past 50 years.

Up until late 2013, the College was using a wired and wireless solution that supported a mix of netbooks, laptops and desktop, whereby the IT environment incorporated approximately 2000 devices in total.

In order to provide a richer learning experience for students, the College introduced the use of iPads for all students in Years 7-10 in 2014, and optional for Year 11 and 12 students.

Alongside the implementation of its 'iPads in Education' program, the College's IT team sought a mobility network provider that had the capability to scale accordingly and support an ever growing number of wireless devices and applications.

BENEFITS:

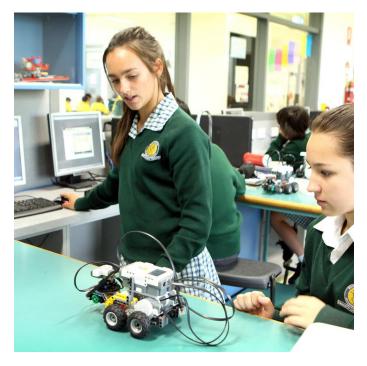
- Leverages the next-generation, Aruba Networks 802.11ac wireless network for secure, high performance Wi-Fi that supports the teaching and collaborative learning demands of Mt Waverley Secondary College
- Seamless and reliable Wi-Fi access to educational resources, from multiple devices
- Enables the ability to onboard any device type used by the students and teachers including tablets, laptops and desktops, totaling 4000 devices
- Allows hundreds of users to connect various devices to the network at any one time, without slowing down
- Creates significant value with minimal ongoing support requirements from the four person IT team, enabling them to resolve any network issues before these issues are noticed by the end user
- Aruba Networks AirWave Network Management allows IT to centrally manage wired and wireless multivendor networks and improve application and device experience, through a single pane of glass
- Significantly reduces the number of IT support requests traditionally experienced at the College, due to the move from Cisco Systems to Aruba Networks



"On the first day of school in 2014, 1400 students were using their new iPads throughout the day on the Aruba Wi-Fi network. We had no glitches, whatsoever, and students loved the experience."

Matt Hall

Head of ICT, Mount Waverley, Secondary College



"In each of our classrooms, upwards of 60 devices are being used by students and teachers at any one time. We required a wireless solution that had the capability and bandwidth to support a high number of users. Students and teachers required seamless, reliable Wi-Fi access to educational resources from a growing number of devices," said Matt Hall, Head of ICT, Mount Waverley, Secondary College.

Working with the IT support team at Honeylight Consulting, in partnership with the team at Aruba Networks, the Aruba enterprise mobility solution was deployed across the College's two campuses in a short space of time. In total, 80 Access Points were installed, and the deployment was predominantly configured remotely via two Aruba 3600 management controllers.

"Our full installation of the 802.11ac solution was completed in just two days. Using Aruba's management controller for the deployment saved large amounts of configuration time," said Mr Hall.

ENHANCING STUDENT AND TEACHER SENTIMENT THROUGH CONNECTIVITY

Currently, 1400 iPads are being used across the entire College, with this figure forecast to increase to 1800 in 2015. The total number of devices and applications accessing the Wi-Fi network – tablets, laptops and desktops – has now reached 4000 in operation. Students and teachers are using Wi-Fi on a daily basis in various ways to enhance learning.



We had no glitches, whatsoever, and students loved the experience. |

"On the first day of school in 2014, 1400 students were using their new iPads throughout the day on the Aruba Wi-Fi network. We had no glitches, whatsoever, and students loved the experience" said Mr Hall.

With digital learning playing a key role in each teacher's day-to-day student activities, it was critical for the College to embrace a mobility network that created smarter classrooms. It had to be stable enough to not slow down with the use of interactive multimedia applications, online testing, and coped with the movement of students throughout areas of the school.

"Our students and teachers are constantly accessing the Wi-Fi network to browse the Web to complete research activities, access Google applications and use ClickView Video Streaming, as well as engage on the school's Intranet platform," said Mr Hall.

"The feedback from students, teachers and administration staff has been very positive when it comes to the performance of our Wi-Fi network. It's fast, secure and reliable. Our student feedback surveys have indicated that our wireless is very stable and easy to connect to," added Mr Hall.

KEEPING THE AIR STABLE, SECURE, SMART AND SIMPLE THROUGH A SINGLE CONTROLLER

The College uses Aruba's AirWave network management platform to control its wireless and wired multivendor networks from one place. Using AirWave, the College's four person IT team can identify who is connected to the Wi-Fi network, where they are connected, the mobile devices they're using and how much bandwidth particular devices are consuming. This tool allows the team to proactively plan for capacity, fully understand client performance and respond to application issues before a helpdesk ticket is received.

According to Mr Hall, his IT team was previously inundated with support requests using the Cisco Wi-Fi network.

"We have seen a drastic change in our support requests when it comes to using the new Wi-Fi network. With an AirWave controller in each of our two campuses, we have



gained enhanced flexibility and full control over our entire wireless infrastructure. We can easily manage and diagnose any Wi-Fi related problems, before the end user is aware of any issue," said Mr Hall.

With Aruba, the College's IT team enjoys a more secure mobility solution, providing enhanced visibility of users accessing the network, contextual policies, workflow enablement and role-based enforcement.

EMBRACING TECHNOLOGY TO ENSURE A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR STUDENTS

According to Mr Hall, the role of the Internet and technology are integral requirements for student learning environments today.

"Not having access to reliable and high-speed wireless access is seen as incredibly unacceptable from both a teacher and student perspective, today. Collaboration is also critical to effectively learning how to work in groups. For instance, Google Documents is one of our core tools for team-based activities," said Mr Hall.



According to Mr Hall, the College's wireless access extends to various outdoor areas around the school, providing flexibility to teachers who can organise activities outside the classroom, also allowing students to access the Wi-Fi network before and after school hours.

"Should the requirement for more outdoor learning increase, we will look to deploy Aruba's AirMesh outdoor wireless solution," added Mr Hall.

