



Russell County Unified School District #407

"Parallels Desktop for Mac is the only solution able to show the versatility of the Macintosh platform. It's a powerful solution that perfectly meets our technology needs."

- Jeff Pape, Technology Coordinator

Country
United States

Industry
Education – Schools

Customer Profile
Unified School District #407 is a comprehensive K-12 school system located in North Central Kansas. All schools are accredited with the Kansas State Department of Education.

Company URL
www.usd407.org

Situation

The Russell County Unified School District #407 is a comprehensive K-12 school system located in North Central Kansas. Its 206 faculty and staff members serve more than 1,000 students in six schools. USD #407 needed to run its critical Windows-based accounting programs in conjunction with its key Mac applications.

However, as with many school systems, USD #407 operates under a tight budget. Already under the strain of decreased enrollment, increased energy costs, and increased spending for its education programs, USD #407 needed to conserve as much of its funding as possible. Investing in additional computers would divert much-needed funds from other critical sources and impact the district's ability to function and deliver a quality education to its students.

Not only would the additional hardware mean additional cost, staff efficiency would greatly suffer as a result of having to use multiple computers to perform essential tasks. Switching between computers to use necessary programs requires additional time...time that could be devoted to the district's schools and students.

Solution

Faced with investing its valuable resources in additional hardware, USD #407 looked to virtualization technology, which would enable the school district to run both Mac applications and Windows programs at the same time on one computer.

Finding other solutions too slow, cumbersome, or underdeveloped, USD #407 turned to Parallels Desktop for Mac. Parallels Desktop for Mac enabled USD #407 to install Windows on its MacBook computers, eliminating the need to purchase additional computers to operate both its Mac applications and its critical accounting program on one computer platform.

Benefits

Because Parallels enabled USD #407 to buy one workstation for each employee, rather than two, USD #407 was able to reduce IT spending by 45% thereby freeing critical budget resources to other necessary school programs. Not needing to operate multiple computers enabled the staff to dedicate more time to other tasks, increasing efficiency and productivity. Unencumbered by additional computers, the staff is now able to devote additional time to the district's schools and students.