

Florida school for professional licenses keeps classrooms running with Comcast Business services.

Secure network solutions help Gold Coast Schools deliver reliable and more secure connectivity for optimal classes and trainings.

Situation

- Gold Coast Schools, a provider of classroom and online courses for subject areas including real estate, insurance, construction, mortgage and appraisals, has nearly a dozen classroom sites across the state of Florida.

Challenge

- Requirements for network uptime drive need for greater visibility and control in an integrated solution.
- Network security concerns due to all-virtual classes and site management have made protecting operations and customer data a strategic priority.
- A shift to all-virtual environments placed additional demands on network bandwidth, redundancy and reliability.

Solution

- SD-WAN on the ActiveCoreSM SDN Platform
- Unified Secure Access
- Ethernet Dedicated Internet

Results

- Real-time insights and powerful network control through the ActiveCoreSM platform's one-of-a-kind digital experience.
- SD-WAN and advanced security integrated into one platform for improved network protection.
- Increased bandwidth and reliable, redundant connections help keep Gold Coast Schools connected with students and local sites.

“Comcast Business monitors and blocks suspicious activity, which gives us more confidence in our technology infrastructure.”

Gary Judycki
IT Director
Gold Coast Schools

Situation

Gold Coast Schools is Florida's leading provider of classroom and online real estate, insurance, construction, mortgage, Common Area Maintenance (CAM) fees and appraisal courses. The organization has been offering professional education since 1970 and has grown to become Florida's number one real estate school based on enrollments over the past 10 years, permanent classroom locations, and the classes and services it provides.

Challenge

Bandwidth, redundancy and reliable connectivity are essential for Gold Coast Schools – the network needs to support ongoing classroom activities. During the course of a normal workday, the average career counselor performs multiple high-bandwidth activities simultaneously. Meanwhile, a small IT team performs network management virtually.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Gold Coast School's operations and classes shifted to all-virtual environments, placing an even greater bandwidth demand on its network. With 11 sites across Florida and plans to expand in the future, the company recognized a need for upgraded network solutions that could not only provide redundant, reliable connectivity but help keep the company and its clients secure from cybersecurity threats.

Solution

Comcast Business provided [SD-WAN with Unified Secure Access](#), a new cloud-based UTM solution powered by Palo Alto Networks that helps block potential cyber intrusions and monitor potential attacks. The platform's advanced security capabilities provide a layer of security against a constantly evolving threat landscape, to help protect the network and data and providing notifications of potential threats in real-time.

“Security is a major focus for our team,” said Gary Judycki, IT Director for Gold Coast Schools. “To help keep our learning centers protected and our student experiences running, we need to make sure that we're prepared. Comcast Business monitors and blocks suspicious activity, which gives us more confidence in our technology infrastructure.”

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BUSINESS

Gold Coast Schools also leverages Comcast Business Ethernet Dedicated Internet, which has provided the bandwidth and redundancy needed to keep Gold Coast's networks up and running, even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Results

Secure network solutions from Comcast Business combine connectivity, SD-WAN, and advanced security in an integrated solution to help protect network resources. With Comcast Business, Gold Coast Schools now has redundant, reliable and more secure site-to-site connectivity, capable of supporting the school through COVID-19, and expandable as the organization grows.

"Our Comcast Business solutions are excellent," Judycki said. "Our support teams are responsive to our needs and have taken our feedback we have provided about the technology. This has been particularly true for the digital experience through the ActiveCoreSM portal. Comcast takes our input very well."

