

Education

Enhancing learning and inspiring academic excellence

Cardinal Gibbons High School

For today's high school students, laptops are as essential as pen and paper. To provide every learner with a dedicated device, CGHS worked with Lenovo to build a resilient campus network and deliver brand-new, high-performance devices to students and teachers.



1

Who is Cardinal Gibbons High School?

Founded in 1909, Cardinal Gibbons High School (CGHS) is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, North Carolina. Supporting students from a wide range of faiths and backgrounds, CGHS is on a mission to help every student develop into a smart and compassionate individual.



2

The Challenge

CGHS has been educating students for over a century. Throughout that time, the school has pioneered innovative learning practices and new technologies to support the best possible student outcomes.

“In recent years, laptops have become an increasingly important part of our students’ learning, both at home and in the classroom,” reflects Lesley Coe, Chief Technology Officer at CGHS. “We’ve been using laptops in the classroom for many years, but with daily usage on the rise, we decided it was time to provide every student with their own dedicated device.”

However, achieving a 1:1 ratio of students and laptops was not a simple task. To realize its goal, CGHS first needed to build an internal network that could support increased traffic. The organization also wanted to ensure that the new devices had the performance to run its chosen education software, the resilience to withstand the knocks and bumps of everyday life, and the reliability to serve each student for a full four years—the total duration of the CGHS high school program.

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“Technology is a vital part of education today. To ensure an engaging learning experience and strong academic outcomes for our students, it’s crucial that we provide them with the very best technology available.”

Lesley Coe

Chief Technology Officer, Cardinal Gibbons High School

Finding a **top-grade** technology partner

CGHS considered a range of devices, infrastructure, and support packages from a variety of technology vendors, and finally decided to partner with Lenovo. The school purchased multiple Lenovo ThinkPad Yoga L13 and Lenovo ThinkPad P15 laptops for its students and teachers to use on a daily basis.

At the same time, CGHS selected Lenovo ThinkCentre M90n-1 desktop computers as well as Lenovo ThinkCentre M720q Tiny desktops and Lenovo ThinkStation P330 Tiny workstations for its science, technology, engineering, and mathematics departments, which run software with higher compute performance requirements.

Hardware

- Lenovo ThinkPad L13 Yoga laptops
- Lenovo ThinkPad P15 laptops
- Lenovo ThinkCentre M90n-1 desktops
- Lenovo ThinkCentre M720q Tiny desktops
- Lenovo ThinkStation P330 Tiny workstations
- Lenovo ThinkSystem x3650 M5 servers

Software

- Microsoft Windows

Services

- Lenovo Premier Support
- Autopilot Enrollment
- Enhanced Asset Tag
- Custom Bios Settings
- Premier Warranty Support
- Lenovo Warranty Self Maintainer

To accommodate the surge in traffic created by adding new devices to its network, CGHS also deployed Lenovo ThinkSystem x3650 M5 servers to power its on-campus network and worked with Lenovo Premier Services to ensure the enhanced network can support future growth in the long term.

“After evaluating so many devices and vendors, it was clear to us that Lenovo was the perfect technology partner for CGHS,” comments Coe. “Not only could Lenovo provide powerful personal laptops and desktop computers, but they could also help us build a resilient, reliable, and scalable network infrastructure to put these technologies to use in the classroom while also offering around-the-clock support if we needed it.”



“I use my Lenovo laptop pretty much every day, and so do my students. As a music teacher, I personally like the fact the Lenovo ThinkPad Yoga can be flipped into a tablet, so students can go from making notes with a keyboard to using their devices to read musical scores in a matter of seconds.”

Aaron Brown

Director of Vocal Music, Cardinal Gibbons High School

3

Results

Today, every student at CGHS has a high-performance Lenovo laptop to support their education at home and in the classroom—and teachers are also using Lenovo devices every day to keep lessons fun and engaging.

“Lenovo laptops have really helped us to step up our use of digital learning tools,” comments Coe. “As a result, we are much better placed to ensure that our students can access the very best resources and find a working style that works for them—whether that’s writing with a stylus or typing with a keyboard.”



Reduces device provisioning time from two months to 1 week



Equips every teacher and student with a dedicated device



Supports campus network growth with seamless scalability

Partnering with Lenovo has also helped CGHS to reduce device maintenance and preparation workloads. Coe says: “Lenovo devices come ready to use. Previously, our IT staff would spend the entire summer preparing student and teacher devices, but now we can complete this task in less than a week—giving us more time to spend with students.”

She adds: “With Lenovo Premier Support managing our network, we can always provide students with fast access to the very best educational resources throughout the school day. What’s more, Lenovo handles the majority of our IT system management workloads, which frees our teams to dedicate more time to supporting our students.”



“Lenovo goes way beyond shipping laptops; they helped us to build a resilient network to support digital learning across our campus. Lenovo also provided the support and training for us to become a certified Lenovo repair center, so we can fix our students’ devices quickly and professionally if we need to.”

Lesley Coe

Chief Technology Officer, Cardinal Gibbons High School

Why **Lenovo**?

Knowing that Lenovo could provide responsive, expert support was a significant factor in CGHS's decision to select Lenovo as its technology partner.

“Lenovo Premier Support has been incredibly quick and reliable,” says Coe. “When we switched to fully remote learning during the pandemic, Lenovo technicians went directly to our pupils' houses to repair or replace devices as needed, helping every student to stay connected.”

Lenovo's close relationship with Microsoft also encouraged CGHS to launch the new partnership. “CGHS is a Windows shop, so selecting devices with support for Microsoft products was a must. With Lenovo, we get more than Windows compatible devices—we can work with a technology vendor that has a close commercial relationship with our software vendor of choice, which really gives me and my IT team peace of mind.”



How can schools make learning fun?

CGHS gives teachers and students access to engaging resources from their own Lenovo device.

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