

# Success Story: Tomahawk School District



“The major advantage of Unitrends is having a backup that will work when you try to use it.”

Dean Alderton, Tomahawk Schools

## Quick Facts

### Industry

- Education

### Protected Platforms

- Windows 2003
- VMware

### Competitors

- Acronis
- Revinetix

### Challenges

- Needed a reliable solution and more data capacity
- Education customers cannot commit to IT solution with uncertain year-to-year costs
- High costs

### Solution

- Recovery appliance

### Benefits

- Easy to manage
- Backups complete without failure
- Reliable and affordable
- Good fit for growing data center

## Customer Profile

Tomahawk School District serves students in Tomahawk, WI., grades k through 12. Tomahawk has a highly qualified staff who provide students with the resources to excel. Tomahawk High and Middle School were gold metal recipients for the 2010 Governor’s School Health Award. The Tomahawk Schools were two of 33 schools in Wisconsin to receive this reward. The honors were given to schools in recognition of their effort to develop programs, policies, and resources that support students’ academic achievement and long-term physical health.

## Challenges

Tomahawk School District was using a backup solution to protect its student information data containing the financial records imperative to tracking every last bit of payment transactions made by the district.

Using Backup Exec’s and HP tape drive’s solutions resulted in more hassle for the school district rather than serving its purpose to provide ease of mind. Every day as the data center grew put that much more data in jeopardy of being at risk. To make matters worse, the backups were not only lacking reliability, but were also lacking data storage room.

Tomahawk School District’s information technology director Dean Alderton considered alternative solutions, such as Revinetix for data backups and recovery, but Alderton

found that it did not meet the district's demands of price, reliability and simplicity.

Alderton looked for a solution that could fit these qualifications, but, bottom line, he really just wanted "a backup that will work when I try to use it." As simple as that.

## Benefits

Having implemented a solution for several school districts, Unitrends was a no-brainer resolution for Tomahawk Schools when it came time to replace its tape backup solution in 2009.

"Switching to Unitrends, we have a more reliable system that can hold more data," Alderton said. "We have not had any issues since we installed the appliance."

Tomahawk found that Unitrends could provide a backup appliance offering full protection of its data, affordability and high quality customer support, which are three major resources the school never had with its HP tape and Backup Exec.

Alderton has confidence that Unitrends is delivering a reliable solution to protect Tomahawk's network of information, and along with the benefits of less stress, Alderton says it is easy to manage, resulting in a smooth-sailing IT environment for Tomahawk Schools.

Including the advantage of having ease of mind that Tomahawk's network of information is protected, Unitrends provides a great team of support to address questions promptly and effectively.

Unitrends all-in-one backup and disaster recovery appliance has given Tomahawk Schools security that its critical network of data is no longer at risk.

"We have not had any issues since its install."

"With Unitrends, we have a more reliable system that can hold more data."

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