



The Lenawee Intermediate School District Enables K-12 Students to Remotely Access CTE Computers



Summary

The Lenawee Intermediate School District (LISD) offers more than 20 Career Technical Education (CTE) programs for K-12 students in Lenawee County, Michigan. To ensure students can continue their CTE programs from home and access the software on the lab computers, the LISD deployed Splashtop to enable students to [remotely access lab computers](#) from their own Chromebooks and other personal devices.

The Challenge of Career Technical Education & Distance Learning

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a lot of uncertainty for K-12 school districts, including the Lenawee Intermediate School District. Going into the 2020-2021 school year, the LISD wants to ensure that students can continue their education in the event that they are unable to attend classes in-person.

One important area that needed to be addressed was how to make the Career Technical Education (CTE) programs accessible to students from home.

CTE programs offered through the LISD TECH Center include Video & Audio Production, Graphic Imaging Technology, and Engineering, Design & CAD.

These CTE programs are taught in specialized classrooms in the LISD TECH Center. The classrooms are equipped with lab computers that have the same software applications used by professionals. These applications, such as Photoshop, After Effects, Premier Pro, and AutoCAD, are often resource intensive, requiring powerful computers to run.

Case Study

About the Lenawee Intermediate School District



The Lenawee Intermediate School District is a regional education service agency based in Michigan that provides programs and support services for its local school districts and nearly 15,000 students in the county. The LISD TECH Center offers high school students more than 20 Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, including Video and Audio Production, Graphic Imaging Technology, and more.

The CTE programs are taught in classrooms equipped with the necessary software applications and high-powered computers that they require. These programs enable students to learn how to use the same tools used by professionals.

Splashtop, Inc.

www.splashtop.com

About Splashtop for remote labs



- Users can access Windows, Mac, and Linux computers from any other Windows, Mac, iOS, Android, or Chromebook device.
- Users will be able to remotely control lab computers with ease over fast connections (streaming in 4k) with HD quality and sound.
- [Schedule remote access](#) permissions so students can access certain lab computers during scheduled time slots.
- Get the top remote access features, including drag-and-drop file transfer, remote print, remote reboot, chat, and more.
- Save up to 80% or more when you choose Splashtop over other more expensive remote access products.
- Learn more about [Splashtop for remote labs](#) or [Contact Us](#) to try it for free.

While the LISD TECH Center is able to provide students with the necessary hardware and software tools they need, a major problem arises when students are distance learning. Without access to the computers and software applications, they cannot continue their education.

Leverage Existing Lab Computers with Remote Access

Nicholas Adams, the Director of Information Technology, and Mats Holm, Network Administrator, knew that the best way to overcome this challenge was to enable students to remotely access the lab computers.

“We couldn’t provide all students with their own high-powered Mac desktop,” Adams said, “so we wanted to provide a solution where they could connect remotely. Some schools provided their students with Chromebooks. In other cases the students are using personal devices.”

Chromebooks are popular in the education industry but are notorious for not being able to run most software applications. Also, many students have personal devices that aren’t as powerful as the lab computers. Adams and Holms had to keep this in mind when looking for solutions.

“We wanted to leverage our existing infrastructure,” Adams said. “If they had a Chromebook, we wanted to make sure the applications worked when accessing from a Chromebook.”

Splashtop for Remote Labs Gets the Job Done

Adams and Holm evaluated a few remote access products. In the end, [Splashtop for remote labs](#) was considered the best choice.

With Splashtop, students are able to remotely access school computers from any Windows, Mac, iOS, Android, or Chromebook device. Once in a remote desktop session, students can remotely control the school computer and use it as if they were sitting in front of it. They can run any software application and open any file on the remote computer with ease.

There were several reasons why Lenawee ISD preferred Splashtop:

Audio when remotely accessing Mac

A problem Adams and Holm had with the other products they tested was that they weren’t able to transmit audio across the remote session when connecting into a Mac. This was a big problem considering the video & audio production lab is comprised of Mac computers.

However, the remote audio worked great when they started using Splashtop.

“I installed Splashtop on a few of Macs and tested it from my own computer and the sound worked, so I was very excited about that,” said Holm.

“We specifically got Splashtop because it was the top solution for Macs,” said Adams.

FERPA

“FERPA compliance is very important to us,” Adams said, “so it’s great to know that Splashtop isn’t going to retain, manipulate, or do anything with the students’ information. Splashtop wouldn’t have passed the gate if they didn’t have that.”

[\(see how Splashtop is compatible with FERPA requirements\)](#)

“We’re prepared now whether students come in or not. Once we’re out of this pandemic scenario, we might have students that need to stay home for other reasons. Splashtop will allow us to provide them with remote access. It also opens our labs for a potential 24 hour virtual lab scenario that wasn’t previously identified as a need. We can provide students with the opportunity to access anytime, anyplace, anywhere.”

Nicholas Adams
Director of Information Technology
LISD

Priced by Concurrent Users

Rather than charging per student or per device, Splashtop for remote labs is priced per concurrent session, keeping costs down for school districts and colleges.

“Our administration was sold on Splashtop because we’re doing concurrent seat licensing,” said Adams, “We’ll assign a computer to the student during a certain time, just like we’ll assign a seat in the class.”

Future Possibilities

Even after the pandemic passes, Adams and Holms see many potential benefits to having Splashtop for remote labs in place.

“We’re prepared now whether students come in or not,” Adams said, “Once we’re out of this pandemic scenario, we might have students that need to stay home for other reasons. Splashtop will allow us to provide them with remote access. It also opens our labs for a potential 24 hour virtual lab scenario that wasn’t previously identified as a need. We can provide students with the opportunity to access anytime, anyplace, anywhere.”

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[Splashtop for remote labs](#) is the ideal solution for educational institutions looking for a high performance, easy to manage, and secure remote access tool that students and faculty can use to access on-campus machines. [Contact us](#) to get started for free and schedule a demo.