



Joliet Catholic Academy Case Study

About Joliet Catholic Academy

Joliet Catholic Academy is a Roman Catholic co-ed, private high school that serves approximately 700 students in Joliet, Illinois. Founded on the values of heritage and tradition, Joliet Catholic Academy is co-sponsored by the Joliet Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate and the Carmelites of the Most Pure Heart of Mary.

Joliet Catholic Academy places great importance on innovative curriculum development through heightened technology in the classroom to enhance the learning experience of its students, expand communication among students, staff, parents and the community, and to position Joliet Catholic Academy as a technology leader.

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building a smarter,
unified business foundation

Connect. Manage. Automate.

Company

Joliet Catholic Academy

Country

Joliet, Illinois, USA

Industry

Education

Business Challenges

To provide a reliable, highly available and cost-effective network infrastructure to engage students in a more stimulating learning environment.

Panduit Solutions

Panduit enterprise solution that consists of the structured cabling system, a highly reliable, scalable infrastructure solution to increase network performance, availability and productivity, providing a more dynamic educational experience for students.

Business Benefits

A network infrastructure that effectively facilitates the agility to adopt next generation technology in the classroom.

Upgrading Technology to Support Curriculum Driven Learning

The Panduit Unified Physical InfrastructureSM approach enables Joliet Catholic Academy to achieve an enhanced learning experience

Business Challenges

With 99% of its classrooms equipped with computers, teachers at Joliet Catholic Academy have expanded their use of technology and needed the proper tools to access and deliver the most effective education to their students.

The increase in activity was causing the response time of applications such as YouTube videos with larger sized files to slow down and waste valuable classroom time while the applications downloaded.

Along with improving network response time and the associated inefficiency, JCA wanted to access the appropriate solutions/infrastructure for its audio/visual equipment.

The numerous cinderblock walls and permanent ceilings within the school made the wide use of wireless technology impossible, except in internal open spaces.

“To keep pace with the growing technology trends that were quickly penetrating the educational arena, we decided to upgrade our cabling infrastructure to address the increased demand for faster speeds and higher bandwidths,” said Jeffrey Budz, Principal/CEO, Joliet Catholic Academy.

In addition, JCA had a limited budget for the network infrastructure upgrade. Tuition is expensive and the administration wanted to be mindful of asking parents to financially extend themselves any further, therefore, the school needed a cost effective solution.

Unified Physical Infrastructure





Strategic Objectives

“JCA allows the curriculum to drive technology which engages students in a more stimulating learning environment. A technology that supports the curriculum is a school priority and would allow us to gain more educational choices for the school and the staff while positioning JCA as a technology leader,” said Budz.

The academy wanted to improve its educational environment by ensuring network availability to provide students, teachers and other staff with continuous access to proper resources for learning. As a result, the school’s priority was to install a dependable, high performance network infrastructure that would accommodate high-speed, multimedia applications, enhancing Wi-Fi service to all areas in the building.



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“This supports our objectives of increasing the use of technology in the classroom, extending communication from the administration to students, staff, parents and the community, ...”

Jeffrey Budz
Principal/CEO,
Joliet Catholic Academy



Panduit Unified Physical InfrastructureSM Approach

The Panduit Unified Physical InfrastructureSM (UPI) approach to design and development integrates critical systems – communication, computing, power, control and security – in a single, easy-to-manage network infrastructure. This approach allows organizations such as Joliet Catholic Academy to adopt new technologies, such as converged networks to broaden the range of tools available in the classroom.

Joliet Catholic Academy chose the Panduit enterprise solution to support its key initiatives of reliability, availability, high-bandwidth performance, and scalable growth, to help propel students towards successful college choices and careers.

Panduit Solution

Panduit worked with the Joliet Catholic Academy Leadership team in the advisory phase to understand the institutional goals, objectives and the current state of the school's technology. This assessment included visits by Joliet Catholic Academy to existing Panduit educational customers to understand the goals and objectives these institutions established and how their partnership with Panduit led to a solution that met their specific needs.

As a result of this collaboration, Joliet Catholic Academy and Panduit came together to design a solution that re-uses existing infrastructure where feasible, and includes Panduit cabling systems to support constantly changing technologies.

Within the telecommunications room, 2 post racks house network equipment connectivity, panels and patch cords, providing flexibility and improved cable management. The high speed cabling system includes modular jacks, patch cords and cables that provide reliable network performance to support demanding applications. Cabling is routed via the Wyr-Grid[®] Overhead Cable Tray Routing System, which helps manage and protect cabling while providing a robust cable support structure.

In the classrooms, the Pan-Way[®] Surface Raceway System routes, manages and protects high performance data, voice, video, and electrical wiring. The tamper-resistant system discourages unauthorized access and prevents physical contact with cabling. The system is designed with attention to function and aesthetics to blend with the JCA environment.

Panduit Mini-Com[®] Modules were deployed across the installation in outlets, raceways, and patch panels, providing flexibility for JCA, simplifying moves, adds, and changes, and reducing operational expenses.



Business Benefits

The new network infrastructure solution creates uniformity in the classroom, minimizes the potential for tampering and provides higher network bandwidth and uninterrupted use of technology tools.

The school now exhibits updated, standards-compliant equipment to effectively facilitate agility for curriculum-driven, next generation technology, and boost scalability of JCA's infrastructure investment. "This supports our objectives of increasing the use of technology in the classroom, extending communication from the administration to students, staff, parents and the community, and establishing Joliet Catholic Academy as a technology leader," said Budz.

Teachers have more time to focus on teaching because they are spending less time dealing with technology inadequacies, creating a better learning environment where students have more instructional time and are actively engaged.

Joliet Catholic Academy is very impressed and appreciative of the time that Panduit spent showing them how to achieve their goals for the infrastructure upgrade. This hands-on approach has allowed JCA to move forward with confidence knowing that their investment in technology infrastructure is viable, and will keep pace with future technology changes to advance learning opportunities.

"Panduit believes in getting the job right the first time. We were fortunate that they shared their invaluable knowledge with our school. The technology upgrade is on target with twenty of the 50 classrooms finished so far and we hope to work with Panduit in the future to upgrade our existing security and Wi-Fi systems," said Budz.



Real-World Solutions

With a proven reputation for excellence and innovation, Panduit and our partners work with you to overcome challenges and implement real-world solutions that create a competitive business advantage. Panduit offers the broadest range of solutions, from data centers and intelligent buildings to manufacturing operations, to help you build a **smarter, unified business foundation**.



Technology Leadership

Panduit develops innovative physical infrastructure solutions that meet the rapidly changing needs of our clients, from hardware and software to advisory services. This commitment is supported by investment in advanced research, solutions-focused product development, world-class manufacturing, and collaboration with customers at the forefront of technology.



Partner Ecosystem

Our best-in-class partner ecosystem offers a comprehensive portfolio of services that span the project lifecycle, from planning and design to delivery, deployment, maintenance, and operation. Panduit business partners – distributors, and certified architects, consultants, engineers, designers, system integrators, and contractors – are qualified to help you achieve your objectives and realize predictable and measurable results.



Strategic Alliances

Panduit cultivates long-term strategic alliances with industry leaders, including Cisco Systems, EMC, IBM, and Rockwell Automation, to develop, optimize, and validate solutions for our customers. This investment in people and resources helps solve our customers' greatest business challenges.



Global Business Commitment

Panduit is committed to delivering a consistently high level of quality and service the world over. With a presence in more than 100 countries, local Panduit sales representatives and technical specialists offer guidance and support that bring value to your business. Our global supply chain, which includes manufacturing, customer service, logistics, and distribution partners, provides prompt response to your inquiries and streamlines delivery to any worldwide destination.



Sustainability

With a commitment to environmental sustainability, Panduit develops and implements solutions that protect, replenish, and restore the world in which we live. This commitment is demonstrated by Panduit's LEED Gold certified World Headquarters, leveraging the Unified Physical InfrastructureSM approach to enable convergence of critical building systems to drive energy efficiency and ongoing operational improvement.

**Transform Your
Physical Infrastructure**

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we can show you how.**

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