



The Bold Print

Why managed print services are essential to ensuring positive student outcomes

There's no question that print is integral to positive student outcomes. But K-12 school districts have many new challenges.

For those seeking predictability in an era of uncertainty, and the flexibility necessary to support both in-class and hybrid learning models, managed print services (MPS) offer reduced costs, security, and improved productivity and efficiency.

This eBook explores how MPS can remove obstacles faced by administrators, teachers, and IT staff in increasingly digital learning environments.



Education in an era of uncertainty

K-12 classrooms are undergoing a rapid state of flux following a period of unprecedented and historic disruption. Yet, while remote learning became the norm during the height of the global health crisis, that transition already was underway. Administrators, teachers, students, and parents were already contemplating the unpredictable future of online education, and where it might take them.

For example, a survey conducted by Echelon Insights found that when parents were asked which ways they preferred their child attend school for the remainder of 2020 school year, 22% responded part-time in-class and part-time remotely or online. As many as 45% of parents answered only remotely or online.¹

Of course, one of the biggest hurdles that school districts faced when classrooms shifted online was ensuring that students had the technology and internet access to participate in remote learning.

This so-called “homework gap” disproportionately affects Black, Latino, and Native American households, with one in three lacking high-speed home internet. Meanwhile, in rural areas, two in five families lack high-speed home internet.

With the advent of new federal grants issued to local school districts across the country—the American Rescue Plan includes \$122 billion targeted at education—there is every reason to be optimistic about online education, particularly in support of blended and flipped classroom models that integrate in-class and virtual learning environments.

According to a nationwide study by the Alliance for Excellent Education,² at the start of the pandemic:

16.9m children did not have access to high-speed home internet

7.3m children did not have access to a home computer,





Still, administrators must support teachers by making the right choices with the funding they receive. Schools are experiencing a talent shortage at every level, from faculty and teaching assistants to cafeteria workers, IT support personnel, and bus drivers. And yet parents continue to expect a high-quality learning environment, and a culture and climate that is conducive to student engagement.

Not surprisingly, many parents are concerned that students are making less academic progress since blended learning and remote learning began. So, what steps can administrators take to support students in the classroom and online while limiting the number of those vulnerable to falling behind?

Technology is leading the way, and printing is one area where many administrators and IT leaders are newly focused. Perhaps your students are fully remote. Or maybe you're creating high-volume printing solutions that make it easier for your educators to customize the hybrid classroom to their needs. Either way, better classroom access to printing a cost-effective solution to improving student learning outcomes.

Any classroom technology needs to operate seamlessly and efficiently to be effective. Print servicing and usage requirements are not exempt from these imperatives. Teachers need to make every moment of in-class or remote learning time count; they do not possess the time, knowledge, or training to deal with issues related to software, hardware, and supplies, much less connectivity headaches and cybersecurity nightmares. Stuff, inevitably, happens.

This is why a managed printing services (MPS) provider is essential. K-12 schools can benefit from an MPS partner that fills gaps that administrators, educators, and IT staff are too encumbered to address.

A customized MPS contract can save you time – and your sanity.





What is MPS for K-12?

K-12 schools commonly use printing equipment for worksheets, creative activities, study materials, and a whole host of other education-critical purposes.

MPS takes the essential task of overseeing your school district's printers, copiers, and scanners from the overburdened faculty and IT staff and outsources it to a team of experts. By providing user-friendly equipment that produces quality materials, MPS ensures teachers can prepare materials for their lessons effectively, efficiently, and reliably.

With an MPS contract, the costs for printing materials and new equipment are factored into the school district's operational expenditures. With a customized MPS plan, the cost of printing infrastructure is often reduced considerably with no sacrifice to quality or technical support. An MPS team also monitors your hardware and supplies on an ongoing basis. As a result, there are no unwelcome surprises at the end of the month because printing spiralled out of control and budgets were subsequently blown.

The short-term benefits of MPS include fleet management (tracking toner levels and paper refills), preventative maintenance, and equipment upgrades. Long-term benefits

include reducing printing costs, minimizing waste, and cybersecurity against hackers through authentication, encryption, and virus protection safeguards. The result is that MPS generally improves student outcomes, such as by reducing the risk of downtime that interferes with teachers' lesson planning and implementation.

However, not all MPS providers bring the same set of capabilities to the classroom, especially when that learning environment is both physical and virtual.

For school districts seeking predictability in an era of uncertainty, and the flexibility necessary to support both in-class and hybrid learning environments, HP has become the vendor of choice. HP MPS offers school systems the cost-efficiency, customizability, and security that gives students and teachers the freedom to learn and teach their way. Most significantly, for K-12 students that lack high-speed internet at home, HP MPS can be an invaluable partner in helping educators to bridge the homework gap through better access to quality printing resources and management. If lacking this invaluable solution, not only will the digital divide remain troublesomely stubborn for some students, but school systems will undoubtedly suffer print resource waste, which represents an unnecessary economic strain on already tightening budgets.

Why should you choose HP MPS?

HP MPS takes a holistic approach to managing the latest printing and imaging tools, technologies, infrastructure, and processes that support your school system.

The result: It simplifies management, improves productivity, increases security, and reduces costs for the entire end-user environment.

HP MPS offers end-to-end services extending from printers and copiers to PCs and more. We can help you identify and address your current and future print requirements. We also can help you rethink IT strategies and accelerate your plans for digital transformation.

HP MPS acts as a trusted partner that handles printing requirements so school administrators and teachers can focus on what matters: teaching the next generation. This is especially critical during the current period of staff shortages, and during a time when the use of printing can be the difference maker for disadvantaged student populations.

Our comprehensive solution includes optimization services, software solutions, managed devices, and supplies. HP MPS provides a full suite of software solutions for print management, security, mobility, and workflow. On the hardware side, our school system clients can select from our broad portfolio of A3 (11.69 x 16.53-inch paper size) and A4 (8.27 x 11.69-inches) managed devices. We can also manage your environment “as-is,” including non-HP and Zebra-qualified devices.

HP MPS also offers flexible financing and leasing terms to address a school district’s specific printing needs and objectives. Our flexible billing options and business terms extend to the just-in-time delivery of Original HP supplies to ensure end-users’ printing is seamlessly scalable with quality output.

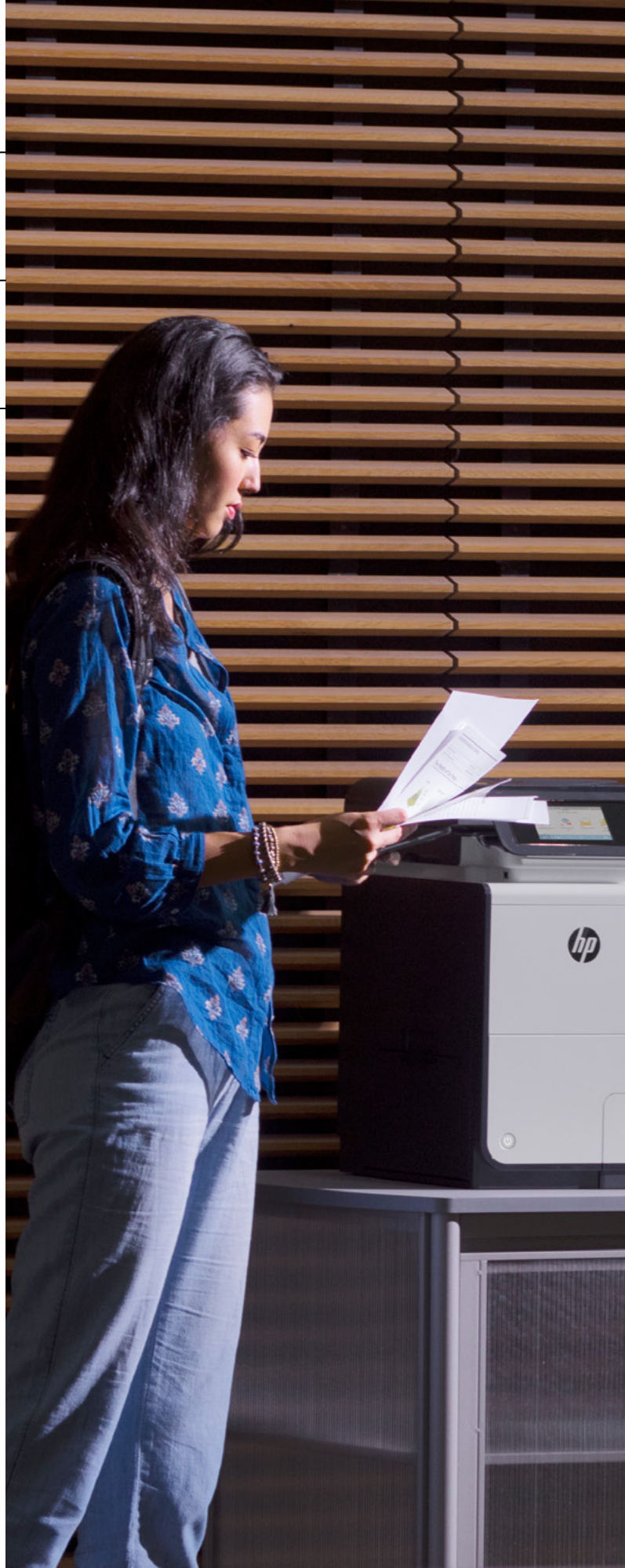


Learn-from- anywhere via the cloud

HP MPS enables administrators and faculty to print and digitize information from virtually anywhere, on any device, without compromising the security of your school system. With HP MPS, you can secure and manage your fleet at-home or on-site, and access 24/7 support by phone or online as needed.

A key component of this versatility is the shift to the cloud. HP MPS integrates with cloud-based services so you can maintain flexible educational environments that meet the needs of both in-class and remote teaching and learning.

It's critical for school administrators and IT leaders to realize that hybrid learning models such as blended and flipped classrooms tend to expose more targets to increasingly sophisticated cyber-attacks. For this reason, we deploy credentialed HP cybersecurity professionals who help your school system's IT staff to implement a secure environment and defend your network with multiple layers of cyber-resilience measures.





Laying the foundation of lifelong learners through technology

K-12 school systems are today fraught with challenges. Among these are the need to increase staff productivity and efficiency while reducing costs and maintaining uptime in an increasingly digital learning environment. Better access to printing can improve student educational outcomes in both blended learning and flipped classrooms. However, managing printing servicing and usage requirements is understandably beyond the scope of capabilities for most administrators, educators and IT staff.

HP MPS is an education partner that works with school systems to identify and deploy the right printing solution which meets their needs today and as they evolve in the future. We can manage and optimize your entire school district's print environment to increase operational efficiency, decrease costs, and strengthen endpoint security.

Our mission is to empower educators to inspire students of every background and lay the foundation for the next generation of lifelong learners through innovative technologies and comprehensive, holistic solutions.





Contact HP for your MPS needs

HP invites you to contact your local HP MPS representative to set up a workshop to assess your school district's specific printing servicing and usage requirements. Together, we can establish a plan to implement the best solution to meet your short-term goals and long-term objectives.

You can also learn more about HP MPS by visiting the HP Managed Print Services for Education webpage.

Sources

¹ Echelon Insights, <https://nationalparentsunion.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/NPU-Topline-October-2020.pdf>

² Alliance for Excellent Education, https://futureready.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/HomeworkGap_FINAL7.20.2020.pdf



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