PURESTORAGE®
Uncomplicate Data Storage, Forever

Northwest
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

About Customer

Based in Fort Worth, Northwest Independent School District (NISD) is one of Texas' fastest growing school districts, with over 29,000 K-12 students. As a leader in career and technical education, it uses the latest technologies to deliver 24/7 learning.
www.nisdtx.org

Geo

North America

Industry

Education

Solution Area

Accelerate Core Applications
Modernize Data Protection

**Pure Storage®
Products in Use**

FlashArray//X®
FlashBlade®
Evergreen//Forever™
Pure1®

About Veeam and Pure

Integrated solutions from Veeam® and Pure Storage help customers meet the needs of today's application and data-driven world by delivering on-premises, cloud-like capabilities with superior data protection and business continuity.
www.veeam.com

veeam

NISD Delivers Always-On Learning for Every Student

As Dallas Fort Worth's fastest-growing school district, NISD welcomes between 1,500 and 2,500 new students a year to its 30+ campuses. To accommodate growth and provide a stable learning environment, NISD's IT systems must be reliable and secure.

Pure provides powerful, scalable, and simple-to-manage storage. Pure's Evergreen architecture eliminates downtime during storage upgrades, resulting in educational and IT services continuity—including one-to-one learning on digital devices. Immutable storage snapshots strengthen ransomware protection and data recovery, while FlashBlade handles data from on-campus security cameras to support school safety.

K-12 Education That Never Sleeps

Education continues well beyond traditional school hours. That's why NISD strives to provide students, parents, and teachers 24/7 access to its services. With both a growing student body and data center footprint, NISD re-evaluated its storage options and selected Pure.

> "Once we set up a Pure array, my team no longer had to worry about maintenance in the same capacity. Their efforts are now better utilized on managing data growth and adding new servers."
>
> **CARA CARTER,**
> CTO, NORTHWEST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Impact on Northwest Independent School District

Adds up to 2,500 new students yearly with no strain on data-driven services

Strengthens school safety with uninterrupted surveillance camera live streams

Improves cybersecurity response planning with immutable snapshots

Challenges

After-hours maintenance required to avoid interrupting student services

Ransomware threats jeopardized district data and IT system continuity

Inefficient storage was a time and energy drain for systems engineers

Results

Eliminates glitches and service downtime to power continuous learning

Protects confidential data and restores critical systems within hours

5:1 compression rate cuts rack space by 75% and hours of storage tasks

"Pure promised cost-effective, powerful, and reliable storage that could deliver always-on education for our learning community," says CTO Cara Carter. "We have not been disappointed."

Mind-Blowing Compression

NISD's curriculum, instructional, and operational applications—including student information and enterprise financial systems—as well as virtualized workloads, run on Pure FlashArray//X. Pure also underpinned its learning management system during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A compression rate of 5:1 represents "a game-changing improvement," says Director of Technology Chris Lee. "With Pure, we've gained petabytes of capacity even though the arrays take up 75% less rack space." Storage management tasks that once took an hour now take a minute or two.

What's more, Pure's Evergreen//Forever subscription delivers seamless, non-disruptive hardware and software upgrades, ensuring the continuity of NISD's IT services. "Once we set up a Pure array, my team no longer had to worry about maintenance in the same capacity. Their efforts are now better utilized on managing data growth and adding new servers," says Carter.

Putting Security In "Safe Mode"

School safety is a top priority for NISD, which operates more than 3,000 on-campus security cameras. Pure FlashBlade handles the constant data flow from these cameras while taking up just one of 18 data center racks. "FlashBlade is a workhorse, handling large data volumes with ease so we can do our part in providing access to video cameras to monitor campus activities in real time," says Lee.

NISD also strengthened its ransomware protection and data recovery with Pure SafeMode™ Snapshots.

Built-in integrations between FlashArray and Veeam via the Veeam Universal Storage API allow for seamless snapshot management. When NISD's data center went down due to overheating, its IT team could have spent all weekend fixing the issue. Instead, they were up and running again within hours.

"The peace of mind we get with Pure's immutable snapshots is invaluable to the district's cybersecurity planning process," says Carter.