

# Baldwin-Whitehall School District

Discover performance, reliability and ease-of-use with ALE solutions.

“Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise switches are rock solid. With the OmniVista Cirrus management we can easily configure and manage them without the need for constant monitoring.”

David Green, Network Administrator,  
Baldwin-Whitehall School District

Baldwin-Whitehall School District located in Pittsburgh, PA serves over 4500 students and approximately 500 staff and faculty across five campuses. The district began its technology curriculum integration initiative just prior to 2020. This program was accelerated when education went online full-time during the health crisis.

The district has been strategic in its IT investments using E-Rate and implementing a consistent upgrade plan.

## CHALLENGES

A 2019 topography survey determined student enrollment at Baldwin-Whitehall was projected to increase dramatically in the near term and their outdated network would have trouble addressing this increase. To meet the challenge, Baldwin-Whitehall planned to add a new building and adopt technology across the district driving the implementation of digital platforms, tools and applications as required. This would allow the school to support remote learning and take student education to the next level.

Baldwin-Whitehall took a strategic approach based on continuous upgrades over six years. The network build-out was the foundation supporting other technology projects including a 1-1 initiative serving all K-12 which took place over three years, streaming and video use in learning, and use of Promethean interactive education boards.

## ACTION

Baldwin-Whitehall had an existing Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise telephone system. With an IT/Communications staff of six, Baldwin-Whitehall sought the support of channel partner [Communications Consulting, Inc \(CCI\)](#), who were key in introducing the district to Alcatel-Lucent OmniSwitch® LAN Stackable switches. The OmniSwitch products became vital to creating a solid back-end network, while alleviating bottle necks. The Alcatel-Lucent OmniSwitch 6900 is implemented as core gear and is deployed in district facilities as routing gear.

## PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS

[Alcatel-Lucent OmniSwitch 6860 Stackable LAN Switch](#)  
[Alcatel-Lucent OmniSwitch 6900 Core and Data Centre Network Switches](#)  
[Alcatel-Lucent OmniVista® Cirrus Network Management as a Service](#)  
[Alcatel-Lucent OmniPCX® Enterprise Communication Server](#)  
[Alcatel-Lucent Visual Notification Assistant \(E911\)](#)

## RESULTS

### Technical Benefits

- Rock solid performance and reliability with OmniSwitches, core to edge
- “Set it and forget it” remote management with OmniVista Cirrus cloud-based remote management
- Secure MAC authentication and simplified product updates from detailed profiles
- VLANs in each building - phone system and surveillance cameras on their own VLANs
- PoE deployment across the district
- 40Gig between buildings with core solutions, enabling multi-gig switching

### Financial Benefits

- ROI - “ALE technology provides good ROI...the solutions are reliable” -David Green
- Baldwin-Whitehall leveraged E-Rate funding for on-going technology investment
- Longevity in phones/phone system and integration into modern IP network

### User Experience Benefits

- E911 capability with ALE phones provides immediate views without network failure
- Network performance helps teachers realise new teaching options using new digital platforms
- Exceed IT requirements - “ALE products surpass what districts require.” - Dan Dorgan, CCI
- Increase productivity- more IT staff productivity with OmniVista Cirrus Management platform

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## Customer Story

MARKET: EDUCATION  
DEAL IMPLEMENTED:  
SUMMER 2022

COUNTRY: USA  
NUMBER OF USERS: 5300+

COMPANY: BALDWIN-  
WHITEHALL SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

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