



Industry: Education

Region: Atlanta, Georgia

Locations: 100+ School Sites

Students: 51,000+

Staff: 6,000+

Devices: 40,000 Apple iPads & HP Chromebooks

Services:

- End-to-End Project Management
- Asset Lifecycle Management
- Break-Fix Support

## Atlanta Public Schools Aces Technology to Transform Learning

Atlanta Public Schools (APS) is as complex as any global enterprise. More than 6,000 staff serve approximately 51,000 students at more than 100 sites throughout the school system.

But APS faces unique challenges when it comes to technology. A large number of its students come from lower-income households, with three-quarters qualifying for subsidized meals. Many lack home access to computers that would allow them to benefit from online learning tools.

Then came the COVID-19 crisis. Almost overnight, APS needed a strategy to enable remote learning – without leaving a single student behind.

In response to the district's needs, ProSys partnered with APS to develop a comprehensive solution to provide a device to every student. Working with the Executive Director of IT (Olufemi Aina), we developed an ambitious plan. This plan included providing key support in seeking a viable lease option to fund such a major initiative to provide mobile learning devices to every APS student.

### Better Technology, Better Learning

APS is no stranger to technology innovation. Several years ago it launched the Digital Bridge Project, a program to achieve technology equity for all students. "We want to close the gap between the resources students have at home and the resources they have at school," Aina says.

An early step was providing 9,000 first- and second-graders with iPads loaded with instructional apps for reading and math. ProSys configured and distributed the tablets. We also provided onsite project management, automated workflows, and executive dashboards with real-time updates.

Next was the rollout of 6,300 laptops to middle school 6th- and 7th-graders. As part of an APS partnership with T-Mobile, ProSys provided support to the initiative by overseeing the configuration and deployment, partnering with Lenovo to purchase affordable WinBook devices.

But with a global pandemic changing the very nature of education, APS needed to dramatically expand its digital initiative quickly.

"ProSys has been an excellent partner. I tell people that I feel like I'm their only customer. I know that if I ever call with a need, they'll immediately respond."

Olufemi Aina, Executive Director of IT

## The ABCs of Digital Transformation

This new phase of the Digital Bridge Project will equip kids from pre-K to 12th grade with approximately 5,000 iPads and nearly 35,000 HP Chromebooks with Intel processors. As a result, every APS pupil will have his or her own device for online learning. Pre-K and kindergarten will have iPads while 1st -12th will have high-end Chromebooks with digital pens and inking capabilities.

ProSys is providing the end-to-end solution. "We started by identifying the hardware best-suited to the district's needs. We then gathered requirements for software, include apps, content filtering, and security protections," said Edna Zielmanksi, ProSys, Director, Public Sector Sales.

Dedicated ProSys technicians are coordinating deployment with principals and in-house IT staff at each school. Two ProSys project managers will remain onsite for the entire project to ensure its success.

Software from ProSys partner Incident IQ tracks devices throughout their lifecycle. Asset-tagging and enrollment in an asset registry enables cradle-to-grave visibility through a single management portal.

A ProSys partner is handling break-fix support. If a device breaks, they provide the student with a replacement and then repairs and reassigns the original device. ProSys will ensure the success of the program throughout the five-year lease period.

### A Learning Partner to Count On

For a school system like APS, budgeting for thousands of devices can be a challenge. The district obtained funding through a variety of sources, including federal and state programs.

To help make that funding go as far as possible, ProSys sourced hardware that would be cost-effective to both implement and maintain. "We had to get the best technology we could for the budget we had," Aina notes. "And we needed the technology to last for years to come."

Our ability to meet such unique client needs is why APS has relied on ProSys as a trusted partner for over 12 years.

"ProSys has been an excellent partner for over a dozen years," Aina says. "I tell people that I feel like I'm their only customer. I know that if I ever call with a need, they'll immediately respond."

### Metrics for Success

APS is already recording success. "For virtual learners, I have dashboards that gather weekly log-in data from various instructional platforms," Aina explains. "We are able to see which tools our students are using, and how they're using them." Across applications, APS has tracked a student logon rate of over 99% since the beginning of the semester.

Once all the devices are rolled out, APS will be able to monitor how much time students spend in each educational app. They hope to positively impact test scores and reading proficiency.

Through this innovative project, APS is giving all learners the same ability to connect with their teachers, classmates, and educational resources during the Covid-19 crisis. Even more important, it's ensuring that students will benefit from technology-enabled learning for years to come.

"Our number one core value is to place our students first," Aina emphasizes. "The one thing that makes all our stakeholders happy is when students are learning, their test scores are improving, they're graduating at higher rates. This project is helping to move us toward those goals."

## Tangible Outcomes

**5,000 iPads**  
for pre-k & kindergarten

**35,000 Chromebooks**  
for 1st through 12th grades

**12 weeks**  
time to deploy 40K devices

**5 years**  
period of time devices will be tracked & optimized

**100%**  
APS students who will have access to a computer as well as connectivity access to students who need it at home through partnerships with providers such as AT&T, Comcast, Sprint and T-Mobile.

### About Us

ProSys Information Systems delivers best-in-class information technology designed to help today's organizations respond to market demands, enhance business operations, and maximize return on investment. Our highly personalized solutions and services cover full-lifecycle endpoint device management, cloud transformation, network optimization, and more. As a women's business enterprise (WBE), ProSys is deeply committed to diversity and inclusion. To learn how we can help drive your digital transformation, visit [prosys.com](http://prosys.com).