



About Todd County School District

Located in South Dakota, Todd County School District is made up of 11 schools with 2,124 students ranging from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade. The school district consists of six different office locations with approximately 550 staff members. The district maintains critical online services such as email, Web sites, video conferencing, technology blogs, and an online help desk as well as an online portal for parents to check their child's school attendance, grades, class assignments and more.



Barracuda Link Balancer Fast Facts:

- Aggregates Internet connection links
- Automated failover
- Bandwidth management
- Quality of Service (QoS) for Internet applications
- Traditional firewall



Large South Dakota School District Maintains Critical Online Services with Barracuda Link Balancer

Todd County School District Improves Web Access for Students and Staff

Tired of waiting

Todd County School District utilizes a variety of Web-based applications to manage student information; to provide administrative and testing services; and to deliver curriculum. The district was experiencing Web access issues due to bandwidth limitations on its single 10 Mbps T1 connection.

"We were experiencing long wait times and time out issues on important events such as student testing and assessment times," said Yancy Gunhammer, technology assistant coordinator for Todd County School District. "We tried a variety of solutions including cutting out Web services such as multimedia links but continued to have issues because of limited bandwidth."

Having had success with the Barracuda Spam & Virus Firewall and Barracuda Web Filter, Gunhammer decided to deploy the Barracuda Link Balancer 430. Almost immediately the Barracuda Link Balancer helped network administrators diagnose a wireless access point that was giving the district problems and isolated it to one wireless unit range rather than multiple locations.

Staying connected

With the Barracuda Link Balancer, Todd County School District now balances traffic across two T1 connections to guarantee bandwidth for audio and video services such as streaming media, a Polycom Bridge unit for video conferencing and other services such as email and blogs. The district is able to secure its internal servers by setting up a Network Address Translation (NAT) to keep its internal IP addresses hidden and port-forwarding rules on the Barracuda Link Balancer's built-in firewall.

In addition, the district's alternative school is running a high bandwidth Web-based curriculum program to help students complete high school credits. Last year the Web curriculum was almost unusable at times because bandwidth issues were causing it to slow down or time out. Since deploying the Barracuda Link Balancer the school has not received any complaints.

"Since implementing the Barracuda Link Balancer we have seen a 50 percent improvement in bandwidth utilization, reliable Internet access, visible time savings and productivity gains," said Gunhammer. "Calls to our office about not being able to reach a Web site, update essential student information, complete testing or other service lag time issues have dropped significantly."

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Starting at \$1,499 with no per port charges or per server licensing fees, administrators can deploy the Barracuda Link Balancer with or without a separate network firewall to consolidate management of network security and traffic aggregation. With an easy-to-use interface, the Barracuda Link Balancer allows administrators to easily define, manage and control Internet links. To minimize ongoing administration associated with security, the Barracuda Link Balancer automatically receives current intrusion prevention

About the Barracuda Link Balancer

Available in three models, the Barracuda Link Balancer is an affordable and powerful solution for routing and managing traffic across multiple Internet connections, capable of handling up to six WAN links. The Barracuda Link Balancer combines bandwidth of multiple high speed connections while automatic failover ensures reliable connectivity to any of the available Internet links. The Barracuda Link Balancer automatically detects failure and service restoration for Internet connections. The Barracuda Link Balancer features an easy to use Web user interface, creating an intuitive and cost-effective administration tool for the integrated hardware and software solution. The Web user interface allows administrators to define, manage and control bandwidth settings from one central location.

and security updates via Energize Updates from Barracuda Central, an advanced 24/7 security operations center that works to continuously monitor and block the latest Internet threats.

About Barracuda Networks Inc.

Barracuda Networks Inc. combines premise-based gateways and software, cloud services, and sophisticated remote support to deliver comprehensive security, networking and storage solutions. The company's expansive product portfolio includes offerings for protection against email, Web and IM threats as well as products that improve application delivery and network access, message archiving, backup and data protection.

Coca-Cola, FedEx, Harvard University, IBM, L'Oreal, and Europcar are among the more than 100,000 organizations protecting their IT infrastructures with Barracuda Networks' range of affordable, easy-to-deploy and manage solutions. Barracuda Networks is privately held with its international headquarters in Campbell, Calif. For more information, please visit www.barracudanetworks.com.