The transformation of the education industry is going to rely heavily on the use of technology to modernize the classroom. In the last few years, academic institutions have invested in 3rd party digital tools for better teaching and deeper learning in a secure and manageable environment. However, now that school administrators like you are realizing they have too much redundancy and not enough unification between their education technology, tech consolidation has become a strategic priority for public, private, primary, secondary, and post-secondary institutions world-wide.

In North America, Google Workspace for Education is the ultimate all-in-one and inclusive solution that provides enterprise-level security, network cloud communication, storage and back-up capacity, investigation and reporting abilities, and collaboration software. It can also eliminate the need for under-serving technology for the following reasons:

1. All communications are in one place and recorded in Vault

   If your institution has ever had to acquire user usage and activity records, such as messages or files, for litigations or regulatory compliance, you know how important it is to hold and access that information when necessary.

Google Vault is a web-based information governance and eDiscovery tool for Google Workspace. With Vault, institutions can determine which content gets retained in the domain and easily search and export user data. Institutions with systems like Exchange can use journaling to record communications as part of their retention strategy, but it only supports emails, not files. Vault on the other hand holds Gmail messages, Drive files, Google Chat messages (history turned on), Google Meet recordings, chat, Q&A, and poll logs, Google Group messages, Google Sites (New version), and Hangout messages (Classic version – history turned on).

2. All reporting takes place in the Admin Console

   Meeting strategic goals requires data-driven decision-making. You can make more effective decisions for your institution when you are equipped with foundational information to guide you.

With Google Workspace, school administrators can run all data reports in the Admin console rather than in various locations within their domain. There are:

- **Aggregate reports** – Provides insight on user usage and activity for all services, domain wide, for the past 7 days.
- **Audit log reports** – Details on individual user actions in services, like apps logins and edits in Google Docs, and delegated Admins actions in the Admin console. While it doesn’t include actions performed in Google Classroom, Amplified IT’s CDW Education’s, Little Sis Premium can fill that gap.
- **Email log search reports** – Tracks messages sent and received by domain users, and messages with the applied matching rules.

In addition to accessing data, obtaining an Enterprise Google Workspace edition like Standard or Plus, provides institutions with the Investigation Tool. The Investigation Tool takes reporting and acquiring data to the next level by allowing you to, not just search, but to take action on solving security and privacy issues in your domain.
3. Upgraded Google Meet features that can replace Zoom and RingCentral

Video conferencing can add value beyond distance and hybrid learning via virtual field trips, parent-teacher conferences, tutoring programs, and more.

Google Meet is included with Google Workspace for Education and works seamlessly with products like Classroom, Slides, Docs, and Gmail. It is easier to set up, manage, and use for education purposes compared to popular video conferencing tools like Zoom and RingCentral, and has:

- Meet recording (Teaching and Learning Upgrade, and Plus ONLY)
- Breakout rooms (Recording not available)
- Lock room
- Mute capabilities
- Participant removal capabilities
- In-meet chat
- Q&A and polls
- Jamboard integration
- Attendance tracking
- Custom background
- Noise cancellation
- Automatic bandwidth detection and quality adjustment
- Dial in and out access
- “Present to meeting” option for drive and doc files
- “Cast to meeting” option for meets created in calendar for Chrome browser

It allows users to join meetings from the web browser of their choice with no additional software required, and is more secure because it uses Google's global-private network to prevent unauthorized access. When Google Workspace is purchased through resellers like CDW Education, administrators are provided with guided onboarding with training on how to implement district-wide Meet adoption.

4. Originality reports can replace Turnitin

Services that enable institutions to uphold academic integrity are necessary for student success.

With Google Workspace for Education's originality reports*, you have access to plagiarism detection directly in their infrastructure, alleviating the need for any other product like Turnitin. Originality reports uses the power of Google search and:

- Link to Google Classroom assignments with no enrollment process
- Allow students to pre-screen their assignments up to five times, while Turnitin only allows for three
- Interact with Google docs so feedback can be accessed directly in Google Classroom and can sync with the gradebook in Google Classroom

Originality reports also offer school matches, which creates a private institution-owned repository of student work to detect content matches among submitted assignments from other students across the Google Workspace domain.

*Note: Unlimited originality reports are included with the Teaching and Learning Upgrade and Education Plus editions only. Google Workspace for Education Fundamentals has a limited number of 5 assignments per course.
5. Google Classroom can be used an LMS

Learning Management Systems (LMS) are intended to create and organize resources in one place and track the student progress, but they can require a considerable amount of setup time and programming knowledge, while lacking access to beneficial features without having to pay a higher subscription cost.

Because of its intuitive nature, capability for integration, and affordable cost, Google Classroom can replace LMS like Schoology and Edmodo, especially if your institution has a smaller population. Within Google Classroom, you can:

- Customize themes with your institution’s colors or logo
- Copy and share classes across your domain
- Provide an all-around experience through integrations with Meet, Docs, Drive, Forms, and more
- Send notifications to user emails or the application
- Allow for quick and easy granular assignment management to track student success
- Export grades to Google Sheets or a .CSV file
- Set collaboration permissions for your teachers and students

Unlike other LMSs that need to be combined with multiple applications like Zoom, Turnitin, Office365, Clever etc. to function as a comprehensive solution, Google Classroom can be enhanced with only one additional product. CDW Education’s Little SIS Premium was built to support Google Classroom and expands its effectiveness in the ability to delegate access controls, sync Classroom rosters and classes, assign co-teachers, automate Guardian sync jobs, and have teachers review, accept, decline, and merge SIS classes.

6. Google Drive can replace other 3rd party data storage options

As the adoption of 1:1 models expands, administrators are seeking tools to assist in monitoring and mitigating their domain’s past, present, and future storage usage.

With Google Workspace for Education it isn’t necessary to have any additional storage solution because of Google Drive*. Even options like OneDrive offer 1TB of storage per user, but there is a 100TB of pooled cloud storage included with the Education Standard edition. With the Teaching and Learning Upgrade institutions receive an additional 100 GB of storage per license and an additional 20 GB per license with Education Plus. Google’s CloudSearch makes Google Drive even more valuable. It allows you to search for items across all Google apps within the Workspace. Advanced search abilities exist so you can narrow your search by type, owner, or domain. Stored files can also be attached to or inserted into other Google apps and be synced offline with ease.

*Note: Google will be implementing limitations on storage in July 2022. You can get greater insight into how and where domain storage is being used with Gopher for Drive, a tool that was collaboratively developed by CDW Education at the request of the Google for Education team to support data insights.
When institutions consolidate technology, the technology becomes more cohesive and efficiently managed, and administrators, teachers, and students have a better user experience. As a Google Premier Partner and a reseller of Google Workspace for Education, CDW Education has served 4,500 institutions by helping them consolidate technology with Google Workspace editions and our Amplified Services.

If you are interested in replacing your under-serving tools with Google Workspace for Education and our complementary offerings, contact a Google Customer Success Specialist.

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