

Cloud Computing

EMAIL, LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, AND PRODUCTIVITY TOOLS—YOU’VE MADE IT TO THE CLOUD! NOW WHAT?

The majority of IT workloads are already running in the cloud as school systems turn to software-as-a-service (SaaS) for email and other productivity tools, learning management systems, and other learning solutions. But SaaS is only one way to engage with the cloud—there are many other ways!

- Solving a particular pain point, such as backups to protect against ransomware
- Providing for disaster recovery
- Trying new software and services quickly and easily
- Simplifying network management
- Refocusing on education and getting out of the data center business

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New technologies and applications are being developed in the cloud for numerous industries, with many now becoming available to schools and school systems.

- Data sharing across applications
- Data analytics solutions using disparate data from multiple sources to create insights about improving learning
- Management and innovation in the Internet of Things (IoT)
- Data-informed personalization technologies

Moving to the cloud offers great benefits, but also requires new skills and analysis to determine what, when, and how to move.

- Leveraging enterprise cloud security tools to better safeguard data
- Re-skilling of the IT team to move from hardware maintenance to customer-facing support
- Careful analysis of actual utilization of existing hardware, rather than a complete lift-and-shift, to determine a valid estimate of potential cost savings in the cloud

CoSN has developed comprehensive *resources* to support your technology and leadership teams in making critical decisions about the move to cloud computing. You can access this valuable resource at <https://www.cosn.org/edtech-topics/network-design/#cloud>