Schools and universities have started to move spring semester courses from in-person to online due to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. Other institutions have cancelled commencement ceremonies and called off all planned community events. Primary and secondary schools have closed across the globe, with more than half of the 50 million students in the US impacted – and the list keeps growing. These difficult but necessary measures to “flatten the curve” and slow down further infections have been extremely disruptive to students, faculty and staff alike.

These changes pose numerous challenges. They range from enabling staff and teachers to work remotely, to educating faculty in the art of online teaching to ensure that students can stay engaged and continue learning, wherever they are. Students still need to interact with faculty members and may need access to specialized software, previously only available in lab environments. After closing dormitory housing and asking students to shelter-in-place, teaching must still continue, and administrators need to develop the right systems in support of ongoing academic activities.
WE’RE HERE TO HELP.

- **Enabling faculty and staff to work remotely.** With the need to keep social distance and self-quarantine, enabling administrators and educators to be productive from home is imperative. **Aruba Remote Access Points (RAP)** extend the same network and security policy to an employee’s home. Additionally, a **Virtual Intranet Agent (VIA)** client from Aruba provides secure remote network connectivity for laptops and mobile devices. Unlike traditional VPN software, VIA offers a zero-touch end-user experience and automatically configures wireless LAN (WLAN) settings on client devices.
- **Ensure secure access to confidential data.** Work-from-home administrators and teachers will still need access to confidential information, just as they would on campus. School IT can feel confident that faculty using a RAP or VIA will have the secure connectivity they require to view or edit student or payment data.
- **Leverage the power of the cloud.** One key facet of cloud service delivery is the ability to have visibility and management of remote sites. As teachers and faculty focus on delivering courses and services to students, **Aruba Central** allows IT managers the ability to manage new (and existing) connections to the network simply and without on-site presence. When the need for these temporary installations passes, you can scale back to normal delivery.

Schools are one of the core foundational organizations of our society, playing an important role in shaping our children’s futures. During this difficult period, Aruba is proud to help educational institutions in their mission to continue educating and supporting students.

SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS THAT CAN HELP

**Extend Your Education Network**

- **Aruba Access Points:** Extend your network to homes and small offices. Whether working for large or small schools, Aruba access points are ideal for faculty needing network access from remote locations while maintaining connectivity to instructional tools and systems.
- **Virtual Intranet Agent (VIA):** An easy to deploy and use software client provides secure remote network connectivity to school resources. Use the same authentication credentials to gain access. Dynamically apply and enforce access policies based on the user’s role.

**Remote and Scalable Management**

- **Aruba Central:** A Cloud-native single-pane-of-glass solution allows IT staff to work remotely while maintaining visibility and control over all vital network services at the campus and all remote sites.
- **Aruba AirWave:** Give IT granular visibility into multivendor wired and wireless networks. Role-based access and VIA enable remote access to keep IT staff safe and healthy.

**SUMMARY**

As organizations explore ways to enable and secure remote workers, you can count on us to help you through these challenges. Let us know what we can do to help.