

# Xchange Network

## case study

## Vail School District

Matt Federoff, Director of Technology

Vail School District  
P.O. Box 800  
13801 E. Benson Hwy.  
Vail, AZ 85641  
www.vail.k12.az.us  
(520) 762.2063

### From Concept...

With 13 schools in the Vail School District, Matt Federoff, Director of Technology, needed a solution to link campuses together and facilitate staff-wide information sharing. Using iCal® and Entourage, employees had access to advanced calendaring and scheduling utilities, but had no way to share information across desktops. "The issue is that there is no native solution available in the OS X environment," said Federoff. "We needed a solution that allowed us to link everyone, on every machine, together."

Adding to the issue, each school was operating on a separate server, and there was a mix of Mac and PC users at each site. "We needed to get the entire District on one server in order to make collaboration a reality. We also needed a solution that enabled our PC and Mac users to view each others' calendars," stated Federoff.

In a multiple application environment, Mark Federoff had his work cut out for him. He required a solution that not only enabled data sharing within the OS X world, but also between PC and Mac. Above all, though, the solution needed to be cost-effective. XC Connect answered the call.

### To Solution...

When Federoff learned about XC Connect, it seemed almost too good to be true. Not only did it provide full inter-connectivity among iCal and Entourage users, but it also offered calendar and schedule sharing between Mac and PC users. "There is no other system out there that does what XC Connect does. It's a true open standards application that enables shared calendaring and scheduling across multiple platforms."

Federoff was also pleased with the depth of system capabilities. In the new environment, employees can set up special permissions to allow access to their calendars. For example, executives can grant full access to their administrative support employees. This allows an assistant to go in and check availability and update executive calendars as items change. Users also have the ability to set their calendars as read-only for employees who do not require full access. "The multi-weight editing capabilities have made scheduling so much easier. And because employees can set up their own permissions, it relieves the IT department of a lot of time-consuming busy work."

Price was another draw for Vail School District. "We liked that XC Connect is priced on a per-user basis, instead of per-software package. This means that a single user has access to the software on multiple machines, and that works much better for us. It is very cost effective," said Federoff.

Before implementing XC Connect, the District's calendaring and scheduling system simply didn't meet employee needs. "The old system had just grown too cumbersome," Federoff explained. "With no means for true collaboration, staff relied heavily on phoning and emailing to schedule meetings and communicate information. It was just not productive."

Today, Federoff has moved the district onto one server, and all executive staff are using XC Connect. "Those who have made the move are enjoying the ease of a collaborative calendaring and scheduling system. I look forward to moving the entire district to a unified system," said Federoff. "Then we will realize the true potential that XC groupware provides."

### Company Profile:

Organization:  
Vail School District

District Size: 13 schools

Description: Vail School District provides parents and children with safe and nurturing school communities where students can obtain a quality education.

Products: XC Connect™

