A highly rated Mississippi school district operates under a strong commitment by its superintendent to deliver “First in Class” educational support to its 2500 students. This extends deep into the district’s IT department. Its mixed environment of 32 Windows® and Linux® servers – arrayed on both physical and virtual servers– generates eight terabytes of backup data.

Challenges:
Maximize server reliability and cost effectiveness by carrying out a virtualization initiative. Protect a wide range of educational-critical applications including food service, Microsoft SQL-based student records and more. Manage a mixed virtual and physical environment with both Windows® and Linux® servers through a single management pane of glass.

Solution:
• Acronis® Backup & Recovery™ 11 Virtual Edition
• Acronis® Backup & Recovery™ 11 Advanced Server

Key Benefits:
• Acronis® Backup & Recovery™ 11 Virtual Edition provides virtual environment backup support without the headache or processing overhead of agent-based backup software.
• Delivers the fastest possible recovery times with Acronis® Instant Restore™ option.
• Recovers to any hardware or hypervisor you choose, for the ultimate in recovery flexibility.
Implementation:

The district’s IT team uses Acronis Backup & Recovery 11 Virtual Edition to virtualize nine servers onto a powerful Linux® server, among them the district’s food service and library servers. The migration effort is conspicuously straightforward as the team takes advantage of Acronis’ user-friendly interface to complete the transition.

Results:

In the case of the food service server, it was first restored to a new virtual machine, then the physical server was brought down and the virtual machine was launched. They completed the conversion, including transferring 85 GB worth of data, in 30 minutes.

Acronis Backup & Recovery 11 Virtual Edition offers a price advantage because it allows the district to place as many virtual machines on a physical host as it can support, currently saving about 40% of the cost of protecting the same number of physical servers.

And, the cost of protecting each virtual machine will continue to fall as the district adds more virtual machines to the Linux server. The district also appreciates the ability of the Acronis Backup & Recovery 11 family of products to manage virtual servers side by side with physical servers through a single user interface.