

STEP SUCCESS STORY

BREAKING DOWN THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: BRINGING ACCESS TO THE CLASSROOM & HOME

Collinsville CUSD 10 partnered with IT solutions provider STEP to construct a private LTE network utilizing technologies from Nokia and Cambium Networks. The network is among the first in the US built and deployed.



Client: Collinsville CUSD

Solution: Breaking down the digital divide



6,200
Students



11
Schools



1st LTE
SD Tower



5 Miles
of Connectivity

1 Challenges:

Located in southwest Illinois, Collinsville Community Unit 10 School District (CUSD) is home of the Kahoks. The district has approximately 6,200 students and is made up of 11 total schools. Since 2020, schools across the nation have had to deal with the dilemma of the pandemic and figuring out how to deliver remote learning and online instruction. CUSD had more than 10% of the student population with no access to broadband connectivity at home for online learning.

3 Outcome:

Over seventy-five percent of the students who did not have internet access prior to the project now have internet connectivity. The centerpiece of the network is an LTE Broadband Tower constructed at Kreitner Elementary School which ties into the district's internet service. In all, the network includes four Nokia CBRS microcell installations providing approximately 5 square miles of coverage in the communities of Fairmont City and State Park. The solution provides students to have equal access to school instructional programs from home.

2 Solutions:

CUSD capitalized on the CARES stimulus funding by finding a sustainable and permanent solution which would grow with their students in conquering the digital divide that the world faces. Leveraging market-leading technologies in PLTE, STEP chose Nokia and Cambium to deliver a PLTE/CBRS solution. PLTE/CBRS delivers high-performance, end-to-end private wireless networking that enables plug-and-play connectivity, reliable coverage, high data rates, and low latency.

Why STEP?

STEP is an award-winning, nationwide IT services engineering firm known for providing cutting-edge services and solving complex IT challenges through a blend of experience and expertise. STEP is not just a vendor but a partner - ready to meet your needs promptly and efficiently.