CASE STUDY

ACSG, A SILVERSKY COMPANY + VERGEOS DELIVER IT MODERNIZATION FOR NEW JERSEY K-12 SCHOOLS

This case study highlights three completed deployments—Somerdale Park, Middle Township, and Hammonton—and includes early insights from Lumberton, a VMware migration currently underway.

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ACSG ADVANCED COMPUTER SOLUTIONS GROUP

SILVERSKY
Change the Rules of Engagement

ACSG HELPS NEW JERSEY SCHOOL DISTRICTS REPLACE VMWARE, RETIRE LEGACY HARDWARE, AND MODERNIZE INFRASTRUCTURE WITH VERGEOS

ACSG, a long-standing MSP/MSSP for K-12 institutions across New Jersey, provides districts with end-to-end infrastructure support, on-site deployment services, and collaborative co-management. Since adopting VergeOS as its standard platform, ACSG has helped multiple districts consolidate hosts, eliminate aging storage arrays, simplify management, and stabilize budgets.

This case study highlights three completed deployments—Somerdale Park, Middle Township, and Hammonton—and includes early insights from Lumberton, a VMware migration currently underway. Together, these projects illustrate how ACSG is building a modern, reliable, and repeatable foundation for K-12 IT.

SOMERDALE PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Somerdale Park's infrastructure became increasingly difficult to sustain after VMware challenged the district's perpetual license following the Broadcom acquisition. When VMware notified them that their perpetual license was invalid, this was the tipping point for change. At the same time, their Dell SAN was approaching end of life, creating an expensive crossroads.

VMWARE LICENSING DISPUTE + END-OF LIFE SAN DRIVES RAPID MIGRATION

ACSG recommended VergeOS to help the district avoid VMware licensing uncertainty, retire the SAN, and simplify the entire platform. ACSG spec'd new Dell nodes, completed the on-site installation, and worked with VergeIO to finalize configuration and perform a clean migration.

Twelve VMs—including file services, HVAC systems, assessment-testing workloads, Windows domain roles, Accounting Software, and core databases—migrated seamlessly. By eliminating the dedicated SAN and all associated licensing, the district achieved immediate cost savings.

With roughly eleven terabytes of data now running on VergeOS, Somerdale Park experienced faster performance, easier remote support, and reduced administrative effort. VergeOS cutover was smoother than expected and faster than the district anticipated.

The migration off VMware went smoother than we expected. VergeOS gave us a clean platform, better performance, and a support model that's much easier for a district our size."

JEFFREY BARBAGALLO, SOMERDALE PARK

"We haven't looked back since moving to VergeOS. Our environment is more stable, easier to manage, and far more resilient than what we had before."

MATT GILBERT, MIDDLE TOWNSHIP

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

FOUR YEARS OF STABILITY AFTER CONSOLIDATING SCATTERED HYPER-V HOSTS

Middle Township previously operated several standalone Hyper-V hosts across multiple buildings, each functioning as a single point of failure. Backups, patching, and basic maintenance required more effort than the small IT team could sustain.

ACSG consolidated the environment into a two node VergeOS cluster, backed by approximately eleven terabytes of capacity. ACSG handled the physical installation while VergeIO guided the design and migration process.

Over four years of continuous operation, Middle Township has experienced consistent reliability. Expiring snapshots—set to a three-day default—eliminated a long-standing source of instability in the former Hyper-V environment, while predictable licensing stabilized financial planning. Middle Township was surprised by "how simple co-management became," especially snapshot management.

HAMMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CONSOLIDATION FROM FIVE HYPER-V SERVERS TO THREE VERGEOS NODES

Hammonton Public Schools faced challenges similar to Middle Township: multiple Hyper-V hosts distributed across buildings, inconsistent performance, and very little redundancy. Their Dell storage array was also at capacity and end of life. Their five-host design created friction for both the district's IT team and ACSG. They saw five scattered Hyper-V hosts collapse cleanly into three nodes.

ACSG consolidated these workloads onto three VergeOS nodes with approximately sixteen terabytes of capacity. ACSG performed the physical installation, while VergeIO provided architectural guidance and oversight of the migration.

Within the first school year, the district saw measurable improvements in uptime, overall performance, and operational simplicity. Most importantly, the recurring snapshot and delta-file maintenance tasks associated with Hyper-V disappeared.

Moving to VergeOS simplified everything. Consolidating our environment gave us better performance and far fewer support issues."

STEVE MINCHAK, HAMMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LUMBERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT (IN PROGRESS)

Lumberton is currently migrating from VMware to VergeOS after severe performance degradation on their previous array. The SAN had become nearly unusable. Early results mirror improvements seen in Somerdale Park and Middle Township, with ACSG and VergeIO using VMware integration tools to streamline migration. If Lumberton had remained on their SAN for another year, they likely would have faced a catastrophic outage during standardized testing. The array was already failing under normal load.

CROSS-DISTRICT OUTCOMES

Across Somerdale Park, Middle Township, Hammonton, and now Lumberton, ACSG has seen consistent modernization benefits:

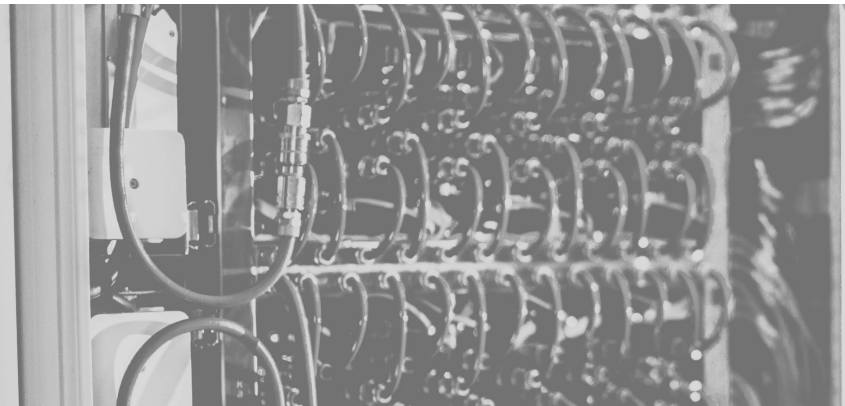
CONSOLIDATION AND CENTRALIZATION

The results across Somerdale Park, Middle Township, Hammonton, and Lumberton share a common pattern. Each district entered the project with aging systems, scattered hosts, and storage platforms that consumed far more management effort than they delivered in value.

Consolidation onto VergeOS reduced server count, created a single environment to maintain, and removed the isolated systems that had existed across buildings. This shift replaced environments with no redundancy with a consistent platform that protects workloads even when hardware fails.

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

All four districts saw immediate gains in workload performance. Some improvements were moderate, while others were dramatic. Lumberton stands out because its previous storage array had reached a point where core systems struggled to respond. Once workloads ran on VergeOS, response times improved and the IT staff regained confidence in the environment. These results were not tied to changes in hardware alone. The unified architecture allowed ACSG to deliver predictable performance without juggling separate tuning requirements for hypervisors, SANs, and networking layers.



BUDGET PREDICTABILITY

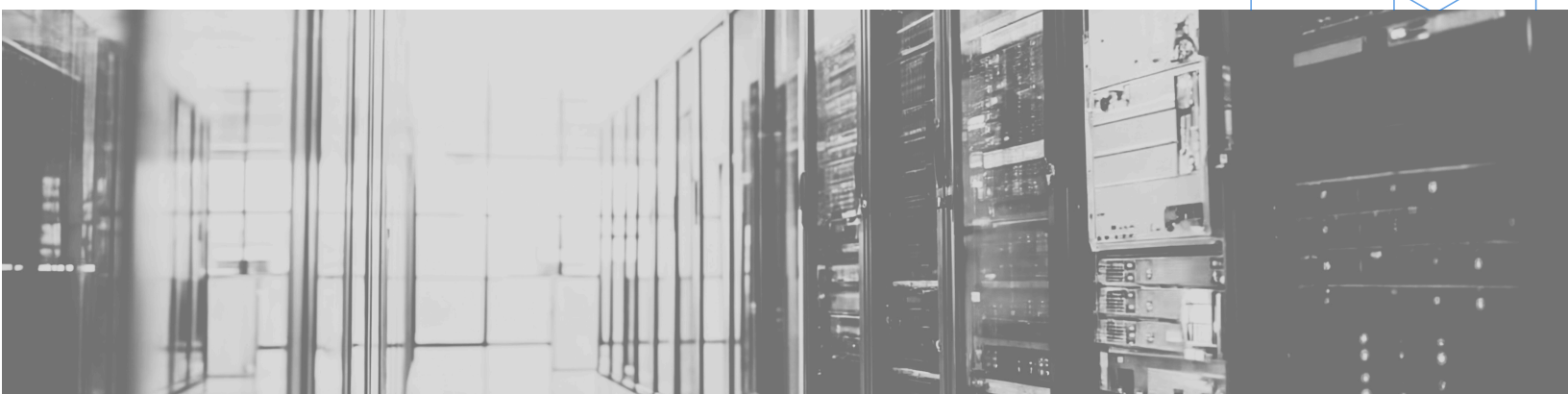
Licensing predictability created another benefit. A per-server model allowed districts to plan budgets without facing unexpected shifts tied to VMware's changes or the expansion of CPU core counts. This consistency helped districts that operate on fixed-year funding cycles where surprises cause delays and difficult trade-offs. The shift away from per-core licensing also removed penalties for selecting modern servers with higher core densities.

CO-MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

The unified management model improved how ACSG and district IT teams share responsibilities. Storage, compute, networking, and protection policies now operate from a single interface. This consistency allows ACSG to take on the heavy tasks while local IT handles day-to-day operations without confusion or overlap. The reduction in complexity produced fewer support tickets and allowed districts to focus more time on instructional systems rather than infrastructure maintenance.

SNAPSHOT STABILITY

Snapshot handling played a central role in stability. Each district had dealt with lingering snapshots or growing delta files on their previous platform. VergeOS replaced these risks with automatic expiration. This prevented the long-term buildup that often contributed to poor performance or unexpected outages. ACSG also gained a simpler support path because they no longer needed to intervene manually to clean up snapshot chains or track down stale files.



ACSG'S STRATEGIC ROADMAP

BUILDING MULTI-TENANT DRAAS FOR K-12

ACSG's next step is to deploy a multi-tenant VergeOS cluster in its own data centers. The platform will provide:

- Disaster Recovery-as-a-Service (DRaaS)
- Cross-district replication
- Failover capabilities
- VXLAN support for running workloads remotely during outages
- A tested model inspired by prior incidents requiring extended off-site operations

The districts featured here represent the foundation for that broader DRaaS strategy. This design is inspired by previous district events—including weather-related incidents—that required extended off-site operations.

CONCLUSION

Somerdale Park, Middle Township, Hammonton, and Lumberton each faced different challenges—VMware licensing disputes, scattered Hyper-V hosts, aging SAN hardware, and poor performance. Through a standardized VergeOS deployment model, ACSG delivered dramatic improvements in performance, reliability, management simplicity, and budget stability.

These schools now operate modern, resilient infrastructure built for the realities of K-12 IT. As ACSG continues expanding its VergeOS footprint—and prepares its multi-tenant DRaaS offering—it is establishing a repeatable modernization framework tailored specifically for schools.

"VergeOS has become our most reliable platform for K-12. It solves the problems we see every day—host sprawl, storage failures, VMware licensing issues, and inconsistent performance."

JUSTIN M. JACKSON, CTO, SILVERSKY/ACSG

"These migrations proved we can deliver a stable, predictable environment for schools. The consistency has changed how we support our districts."

MATTHEW TORRES SENIOR ENGINEER, SILVERSKY/ACSG