Cloud's Big 3:
Backup, DR and Hybrid

Enable security-rich, managed protection on a choice of platforms

Highlights

- **Save**—Reduces total cost of ownership with cloud-based solutions

- **Protect**—Enables security-rich, fully-managed protection of critical data in a hybrid cloud environment

- **Manage**—Helps manage peak loads without purchasing additional, under-utilized infrastructure.

Cloud Computing is recognized as a transformational capability for organizations – delivering significant value, speed and agility:

- Elastic resources—Scale up or down quickly and easily to meet demand
- Metered service—You only pay for what you use
- Self-service—All the IT resources you need with self-service access

School district CIOs recognize the potential benefits that cloud computing brings. However, they often struggle with many questions that hinder them from taking the next step. Whether or not you have worked with our consultants in an IBM K-12 Cloud Strategy and Planning engagement, you may be ready to begin with Cloud Computing.

Many of our K-12 Clients begin with the Big 3: Backup, Disaster Recovery and Hybrid Cloud

Cloud Backup

Backup is a process in which all school districts must be proficient. It is a key IT service that can be time-consuming to setup, test, maintain and support. It requires significant hardware and software components, which can be costly to maintain and refresh when they need to be upgraded.

Cloud backup solutions, such as Microsoft Azure Backup and IBM Cloud, are powerful, simple to use cloud-enabled solutions that can decrease your costs and provide a reliable, secure and efficient alternative to tape backup. Cloud backup provides reduced capital and operational costs, faster recovery times, and achieves Ministry mandates for long term retention of data.

Cloud Disaster Recovery

Most school districts today do not have a DR strategy and plan because of many challenges:

- A typical DR solution at a secondary data centre is complex and costly
- Multiple solutions are required to protect a heterogeneous environment
- Current DR solutions don't support all applications
- Performing a DR drill can be difficult, with the risk of impacting production workloads
- Data loss and application errors often occur when failing over to a secondary site

DR in the cloud presents a great opportunity for districts to address these challenges. DR in the cloud is more cost effective than an on-premise DR solution and allows for greater flexibility by easily increasing or decreasing your storage capacity as your business demands. Rather than having to commit to a specific amount of computing infrastructure and storage for a certain time and worry whether you're meeting or exceeding those requirements, you can scale as needed and pay as you go.

Another big difference between cloud-based DR and traditional recovery practices is the benefit in improved RPO (Recovery Point Objective) and RTO (Recovery Time Objective). With cloud-based DR, your site has the capability to recover from a warm site right away (or DR ready state), drastically reducing fail-over errors and RPO and RTO times from days, or even weeks, to hours. It also allows districts to run DR drills with no business or application impact.

Hybrid Cloud

Hybrid cloud is a holistic approach to the consumption of IT and allows for greater scalability, flexibility and optimization.

It is about matching the right solution to the right job. Public cloud, private cloud and dedicated servers are combined and work together seamlessly as one platform.

Hybrid cloud is the most likely scenario for most school districts allowing them to maintain a data centre and adding cloud services to supplement and scale-out as required. It allows districts to provision servers in the cloud on demand in order to ramp up capacity for key times of the year, such as IEPs and Report Cards.

Whether you decide to implement a cloud backup or DR solution or evolve to a hybrid cloud model, we can help! In each case we will work with you to develop a plan, process and documentation based on Microsoft Azure or IBM Cloud that meets your unique needs.

Typical Length of Engagement: 3 - 6 weeks

Why IBM?

Based on our extensive experience working with school districts and understanding cloud solutions, the IBM K-12 Education IT team is on standby, ready to work with you. Our Canadian infrastructure and extensive industry knowledge are designed to make IBM K-12 Education IT specialists your first choice.

For more information

To learn more about IBM K-12 **Cloud Backup, Disaster Recovery and Hybrid Cloud,** please contact your IBM Marketing Representative.

For more information on all our IBM K-12 Consulting and Professional Services, visit: www.ibm.com/industries/education/canada-k-12-service-briefs

IBM

Please Recycle