



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **St. Elizabeth High School Creates “Bring Your Own Device” Learning Environment with Comcast Business Ethernet**

*Co-Educational Catholic School Becomes First in Northern Delaware to Move 95 Percent of Textbooks to the Cloud for the 2013-2014 School Year*

**WILMINGTON, Del. – October 1, 2013** – [Comcast Business](#) today announced that St. Elizabeth High School, a Catholic preparatory school serving the city of Wilmington, DE, and its surrounding towns, is using Comcast Business [Ethernet services](#) to help support a mandatory 1:1 Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy for all students, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. As part of a comprehensive plan to expand the use of technology – called the Viking Initiative for Innovation, or “ViFi” – Comcast installed the necessary bandwidth for more than 350 high school students to use iPads simultaneously as part of their daily curriculum – an initiative that has already replaced nearly all of the school’s textbooks and is expected to save local parents more than \$500 per year.

Located on the southwest edge of the city of Wilmington, [St. Elizabeth High School](#) (SEHS) is a co-ed college preparatory school that has provided a Catholic education to more than 6,000 graduates since its founding in 1940. As part of making its rigorous curriculum even more interactive, engaging and personal, SEHS recently required all students to purchase an iPad for the 2013-2014 school year – a move that has already replaced 95 percent of physical textbooks with eBooks and iBooks. Productivity apps such as Notability, Google Drive, Pages, Keynote, Dropbox, Socrative, and iMovie will be pushed out to students through the school’s mobile device management system, along with more than 100 other course-specific programs that have been hand-selected by teachers based on independent testing.

“At the end of the day, our mission as educators is to fully arm our graduates for the future – both academically and technologically – and to ensure they have a strong familiarity with modern devices like the iPad and online services like video conferencing or Google Drive which provides them with the foundation they need to begin that journey,” said Shirley Bounds, principal of St. Elizabeth High School. “We knew that making the vision of our iPad program a reality would require finding a cost-effective way to upgrade our network. So when Comcast was able to provide us with significantly more bandwidth at a lower overall cost, we took a giant stride closer to achieving our goal of creating an all-digital educational environment for our students, teachers and administrators.”

Comcast was able to upgrade SEHS’s network from multiple bonded T1 lines to a 50 Megabit-per-second (Mbps) [Ethernet Dedicated Internet](#) connection, which is helping to support the increased and sustained traffic caused by the hundreds of iPads accessing online software and eBooks during class times. Grades Pre-K through 8, which share the same building as the high school, are also using this bandwidth for their Internet access, and [PRI Trunks](#) have been implemented to ensure the school has reliable, high-quality voice service. Additional plans to expand the BYOD program and ultimately move all textbooks to the cloud are underway.

“In today’s educational environment, teachers are getting creative with their use of new technologies to enhance the learning experience for their students, which means that schools must take steps to upgrade their networks now in order to ensure that they are fully prepared for what’s next,” said Kevin Conmy, vice president for Comcast Business, Freedom Region. “Comcast’s advanced communications network has the necessary infrastructure to support bandwidth-intensive initiatives like BYOD while still allowing schools to keep their costs in check, which creates a mutually-beneficial situation for everyone involved.”

#### **About Comcast Business**

Comcast Business, a unit of Comcast Cable, provides advanced communication solutions to help organizations of all sizes meet their business objectives. Through a modern, advanced network that is backed by 24/7 technical support, Comcast delivers Business Internet, TV and Voice services for cost-effective, simplified communications management.

The Comcast Business Ethernet suite offers high-performance point-to-point and multi-point Ethernet services with the capacity to deliver cloud computing, software-as-a-service, business continuity/disaster recovery and other bandwidth-intensive applications. Comcast Ethernet services are significantly faster than standard T1 lines and other legacy technologies, providing scalable bandwidth from 1 Mbps up to 10 Gigabits-per-second (Gbps) in more than 20 major US markets.

For more information, call 866-429-3085 or visit <http://business.comcast.com/enterprise>.

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#### **About Comcast Cable**

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