



## Gloucester County Public Schools

**Industry:** Education

### Company Profile:

Gloucester County Public Schools is a division of the Virginia public school system that serves Gloucester County, Virginia. GCPS is comprised of six elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school, with a total student enrollment of approximately 5,925 for the 2008-2009 academic years.

### The Challenge:

Due to the high volume of new and terminating student and faculty email accounts each term, keeping track of the account status had become a time consuming manual process. In addition, when standardization procedures for creating new accounts were not followed, incorrect computer names resulted in invalid data in Active Directory.

### Solution:

GCPS successfully used Namescape's **mPowerTools** to search the data in Active Directory and identify dormant accounts based on login history reports. Identifying invalid computer names enabled IT to clean up AD and correct account information.

### Results:

**mPowerTools** provided the solution Gloucester County Public schools needed - within the school budget - to keep their Active Directory data clean, consistent and current.

## mPowerTools keeps Active Directory clean, consistent and current for Gloucester County Public Schools

### The School

Gloucester County Public Schools is a division of the Virginia public schools that serves Gloucester County, located north of York County on the Middle Peninsula of Virginia. A community of the Hampton Roads area, with a population of approximately 35,931, the GCPS enrollment for the 2008-2009 school years was approximately 5,925.

The Gloucester County Public Schools are comprised of six elementary schools (grades K-5), two middle schools (grades 6-8) and one high school (grades 9-12). GCPS' mission is to provide a safe environment in which all students have the right to learn. Through the process of continuous improvement in achievement, Gloucester County Public Schools will assist and expect students to acquire knowledge and skills to become literate, contributing citizens in a democracy.

### The Challenge

The Gloucester County Public Schools system maintains between 1,400 and 1,500 accounts in Active Directory – a relatively small number compared to some school systems, but a significant number if you're trying to manage the accounts manually.

The GCPS Human Resources department reliably communicated new hire information for staff, students or substitute teachers to IT so they could create the required email accounts. Terminations, however, were sometimes overlooked, creating a cache of inactive and never-used accounts.

Finding a way to track down those inactive accounts - and either activate or retire them – became a priority for the Directory of Technology Services at GCPS.

### Namescape's **mPowerTools** Solution

The search for a tool that could extract and report on the information in Active Directory - and do it on a limited budget - led GCPS to Namescape. **mPowerTools** reports provided the information IT needed to demonstrate to Human Resources that many substitute teachers never logged on to the network or used their email accounts, alerting HR that additional training was required to ensure that all new accounts were validated.

In addition, on the IT side, standardization procedures for new accounts were not always followed and computers were given incorrect names resulting in invalid computers listed in Active Directory. IT used **mPowerTools** to cull through the data and clean up Active Directory by identifying unused

*"The ability to get lists of login times and dates (from Active Directory) – mPowerTools paid for itself just by getting that information."*

— Directory of Technology Services  
Gloucester County Public Schools  
9 schools (K–12), 5,925 students

accounts and invalid computer names and then deleting anything that hadn't been used in over a year.

**"mPowerTools** is a powerful search engine for getting information out of Active Directory," says GCPS Director of Technology Services.

### **The Results**

Namescape's **mPowerTools** provided exactly the right Active Directory tool at the right price for GCPS. "The ability to get the lists of log in times and dates – **mPowerTools** paid for itself just by getting that information. I just don't have time to go through AD and figure it out manually."

**Microsoft**  
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