

Quantum.

## Pine Crest School Optimizes Storage and Enhances Student Learning with Quantum StorNext




Through its digital and print media program, Pine Crest School—one of the largest independent schools in the U.S.—offers students hands-on experience with researching stories, identifying sources, conducting interviews, reporting, editing, and evaluating a final product. With over 300 students enrolled each year from grades 5 through 12, the school needed a fast, reliable storage system that could support video workflows, grow with the program, and foster an environment of learning and collaboration.

For 86 years, Pine Crest School has been delivering academic excellence by offering a unique educational experience and creative programs. One of the most popular programs being offered at the school today is the Digital Media program.

Beginning in the fifth grade, students enrolled in the Digital Media program are taught the basics of broadcast journalism and film production. This includes camera operation, editing, writing, journalistic ethics, and studio equipment operation.

**FEATURED PRODUCTS**



StorNext®  
File System

### CASE STUDY



“If somebody is looking for a shared storage solution for their media program, I would definitely recommend Quantum. It’s easy to set up, easy to integrate, and easy to use ... and it just works.”

**Dave Burgess**

Director of Digital Media Production  
Pine Crest School



## SOLUTION OVERVIEW

- Quantum StorNext® File System running on Quantum Xcellis® appliances

## KEY BENEFITS

**Gained a scalable storage solution** for fast-growing volumes of high-resolution content.

**Simplified access to content from any workstation**, enabling students to tap into centralized storage from anywhere.

**Increased student and teacher productivity** due to high-speed access to content, ease-of-use, and reliability of the storage system.

“Quantum is a name that has been synonymous with storage in the video and post-production environment for years. When we looked at it closely, we realized it was the obvious choice for us.”

**Dave Burgess**

Director of Digital Media Production  
Pine Crest School

As students progress into higher grades, they learn more advanced skills and gain experience. This is acquired through a combination of in-class instruction and hands-on activities, which includes video production, media content creation, and pre-produced broadcasts to the school community.

To support the program, Pine Crest School provides the latest in video camera technology and editing software, three fully equipped digital broadcast studios, and three editing labs for high-definition post-production work. But the

popularity of the program along with geographically dispersed campuses puts stress on the school's technology infrastructure.

“When you have a high number of students like we have in our program coming in and out of the studio each day, coming in and out of our editing labs, going out on acquisition, you have a lot of data coming back to be edited and made into stories,” said Dave Burgess, director of digital media production at Pine Crest School. “We had to answer several questions: Where is this data going to be stored? How is it going to be

accessed? How are we going to create an environment that will foster collaboration amongst the different students and faculty members that are using the facilities?”

## Implementing High-Performance Centralized Storage

Pine Crest School worked with LH Computer Services, a storage reseller and integrator specializing in media and entertainment workflows, to explore storage options. Doug Cole, owner of LH Computer Services, recommended Quantum StorNext.

StorNext is a file system and data management platform that provides high-performance access to shared storage and is designed to support high-resolution video files.

Pine Crest implemented StorNext running on Quantum Xcellis appliances at both of its campus locations: Boca Raton and Fort Lauderdale. Each installation connects to the network via Fibre Channel switches and attaches to the school's storage area network (SAN). The campus locations are connected via a fiber-optic line, making it seem like every user is on the same physical network.

“Pine Crest chose Quantum because of its reliability, its file system built for video, and its ability to handle the scalability and capacity needs that were a part of their program,” Cole said.

## Enhancing the Creative Process

Fostering a collaborative learning environment is a top priority for the Digital Media program at Pine Crest, so the new storage system not only needed to provide speed and capacity, but also be easy to use and allow access from anywhere.

“When you're looking for shared centralized storage in an environment such as ours, you really want something that's not going to get in the way of the creative process or hinder your ability to teach,” Burgess said. “You don't want your teachers spending time setting up access or working on storage issues, because it takes away time from the students.”

The Pine Crest network is configured with fiber optic connections to every workstation. This enables high-speed access to the storage, and the StorNext File System enables students to access files from either campus as if they were stored on their local workstation. The shared storage environment appears as a local drive, which makes it easy to use for the students and the teachers.

## Increasing Student Productivity

Shared access from any workstation not only makes the StorNext system easy to use for students, but also helps them to be more productive. Students are able to do their work without worrying about storage-related concerns or where files are located.

## ABOUT LH COMPUTER

LH Computer Services is a reseller and integrator specializing in data storage and protection solutions. Established in 1991, they have been providing world-class storage solutions to customers for many years. They provide comprehensive solutions, drawing on the best-of-breed hardware and software from multiple manufacturers. LH Computer Services prides itself on building solid relationships with customers, to prove invaluable to organizations by providing excellent service before, during and after the sale. Whether the need is networked storage, tiered storage, data lifecycle management, backup/restore, disaster prevention and recovery, compliance or security, LH Computer Services can help.



Reliability is another factor that helps increase student productivity. The StorNext system has been reliable, Burgess said, with very minimal downtime and fast support from Quantum whenever there was a problem. “It’s simple,” he said. “Less time spent troubleshooting problems with your SAN equals more student productivity and increased output from the teachers.”

### Scalability Supports Future Growth

The StorNext File System can scale to add capacity whenever it is needed. For example, the file system supports tiered storage, which would allow Pine Crest to archive files to lower cost media, such as tape or the cloud under a single file system. This would enable them to manage their media assets more cost-effectively as the Digital Media program continues to grow.

Burgess sees scalability, along with ease of use, elegance, and reliability as the top reasons for implementing Quantum’s StorNext File System. “If somebody is looking for a shared storage solution for their media program, I would definitely recommend Quantum,” he said. “It’s easy to set up, easy to integrate, and easy to use ... and it just works.”

### ABOUT PINE CREST SCHOOL

Established in 1934, Pine Crest School has been at the forefront of providing an educational experience rooted in academic excellence and complemented by outstanding athletics and arts. With two Florida campuses—one in Boca Raton and the other in Fort Lauderdale—and a 9:1 student-to-teacher ratio, the Pine Crest of today remains dedicated to this tradition while embracing innovation, the modernization of education, and the importance of 21st-century learning skills.

## Quantum

Quantum technology, software, and services provide the solutions that today’s organizations need to make video and other unstructured data smarter – so their data works for them and not the other way around. With over 40 years of innovation, Quantum’s end-to-end platform is uniquely equipped to orchestrate, protect, and enrich data across its lifecycle, providing enhanced intelligence and actionable insights. Leading organizations in cloud services, entertainment, government, research, education, transportation, and enterprise IT trust Quantum to bring their data to life, because data makes life better, safer, and smarter. Quantum is listed on Nasdaq (QMCO) and the Russell 2000® Index. For more information visit [www.quantum.com](http://www.quantum.com).

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