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# 20 Most Promising Education Tech Solution Providers

The education sector is evolving with nature defining speeds towards new ways of teaching and learning. The metamorphosis is brought out by advent of technology in education. Smart mobile devices, social networking, virtual classrooms, identity management systems, faculty evaluation systems, data analytics and array of educational technologies have taken education to all new heights—both within and outside the classrooms.

The major change is reflecting in the traditional book based learning that is being replaced with digital solutions. With this, teachers now have the ability to engage students in better ways like projecting the 3D image of DNA on to the screen and simulating the process of Meiosis and Mitosis. The same technology can be applied to any streams of learning. Assisting these learning methods are a multitude of smart devices, which were earlier considered as distractions for students. But the very devices are now leading way for immersive learning. Teachers are distributing learning contents to all the students' devices and roam across the class instructing and helping individuals with doubts.

Technology is also helping the institutions to better cater to student's idiosyncrasies, through data analytics. The historic academic data is analyzed with respect to student's social background, their interests and the current trends in education to guide them towards the best courses and colleges available and also help design best teaching methods to suite their learning abilities.

With universities growing in size, establishing various branches and offering online education, it becomes necessary to securely manage student and staff data, ensure strict and smooth authentication processes and manage identities. All these needs are catered by identity, student and faculty management systems.

There are array of such technologies that are changing education landscape for good. Now the teachers have better instructional tools, administrators have better management tools and students have better learning tools. Behind the scenes are group of companies that are fueling this educational transformations through their innovative technological solutions.

In this edition of CIO Review, we bring to you "20 Most Promising Education Technology Solution Providers 2014" and "20 Most Promising Education Technology Service Providers 2014," featuring the best solution and service providers offering technologies and services related to Education. The companies listed here showcases extensive business knowledge and innovative strategies combined with talent base across locations.

A distinguished panel comprising of CEOs, CIOs, CMOs, VCs, analysts and CIO Review editorial board has selected the top players from over thousand companies. The listing provide a look into how education solutions work in the real world, so that you can gain a comprehensive understanding of what technologies are available, which are right for you, and how they shape up against the competition.



#### **Company:**

AVer Information, Inc.

#### **Key Person:**

Michael Kuo, Co-founder and CEO

#### **Description:**

AVer offers visual collaboration, campus security, and charging solutions for an immersive learning environment.

#### Website:

averusa.com



### AVer Information, Inc.

## Visual Collaboration Solutions to Create Engaging Learning Environments

t is not an uncommon scene where children are immersed in their smartphones/tablets playing games, browsing, and enjoying videos. Educational institutions are increasingly looking to integrate these technologies to increase enthusiasm, interaction and engagement while countering absenteeism, poor performance, and lack of enthusiasm towards learning. As educators strive to create modern and effective learning environments, students and teachers are presented with a multitude of instructional technologies. However, the sheer variety of technology available makes it difficult to create and offer seamless curriculum that combines content with technology to increase collaboration and engagement while keeping the teacher mobile throughout the classroom. Understanding these issues is AVer Information, a Silicon Valley-based company, which develops solutions that combine live and physical content into interactive software that can be annotated, recorded, and shared instantly between teacher and student, or to the cloud for flipped and blended learning.

As today's classrooms continue to evolve with technology, many schools are getting equipped with the next generation text books (Smartphones, Tablets and Laptops). AVer's solutions enhance the use of these electronic text books. The company's Sphere2 software and ClassSend Student Engagement App lets students interact and engage with the document camera connected to teacher's PC/Mac. Developed by AVer, these cameras can capture and display physical content and curriculum onto larger screens, as well directly to the student devices in

Michael Kuo

real-time. Working in conjunction with Sphere2 curriculum software, ClassSend provides immersive, 1 to 1 classroom engagement by allowing students to use their handheld devices to interact directly with the teacher and lesson content. To keep these gadgets functioning, AVer also provides charging carts that support 30–40 devices, in sleek compact designs, secured and ideal for varying screen sizes. These intelligent charging

systems save school's money by regulating power consumption and securing the devices themselves, while ensuring the devices are available, ready and functional for everyday use.

The company goes a step further with its camera innovations, to make schools safer for students, faculty and assets. Their IP Cameras implemented in schools and campuses deter theft, vandalism, and violence while providing immediate alerts and real-time access for administrators and first responders. As events occur, AVer's Campus Security solutions clearly identify incidents, suspects and other security threats for investigation and prosecution.

# We create our solutions based on the needs and pain points of our clients, which makes our products unique and sustainable in today's changing environments 99

AVer understands customer demands and frustrations. "We create our solutions based on the needs and pain points of our clients, which makes our products unique and sustainable in today's changing environments," says Michael Kuo, the co-founder and CEO of AVer. In one such example, the company, leveraging TabCam and iPads, helped Ocoee Middle School keep students engaged in a digital world. "Kids have iPads/smarphones, but when they come to school, we ask them to switch it off—shunning the very devices which can help us engage students," said Jason Caperton, TechBrarian, Ocoee

Middle School. "When we were trying out a strategy to utilize these devices to create effective learning environment, we came across AVer," he adds. With TabCam, AVer brought real-life, real-time content, where the class can interact with live content, record full lessons, play it back, annotate over their content, or post it to online venues right from their hand held screens so no one misses any part of the instruction.

AVer's ability to empower schools' digital initiatives has helped it to gain major clientele such as Los Angeles Unified School District, Palm Beach County School

District, Fairfax County Public Schools, and Duval County Public Schools. "Continuing to listen and work directly with educators and students, we focus on understanding the needs of educators, and develop solutions to fulfill these needs," concludes Kuo. (\*)