CHALLENGE:
“One of our biggest challenges was job turn-around—with 50 schools spread out over 92 square miles, getting jobs here quickly was tough. Other key requirements for a Web-to-Print solution were for the PDF document to reside on the user’s computer, and we needed a solution that could be linked with the County’s accounting system, to more easily process budget transfers.”

—John Schreck, Manager of Publications

In 2007, the publications office of Riverside Unified School District (RUSD) realized they needed a faster and more efficient way to get print jobs into the system from its many spread-out campuses. Specific wish list features also included a PDF-friendly way to receive print jobs, as well as a more seamless method for processing related accounting paperwork with the County office. So, lead by manager John Schreck, a 35-year sheetfed printing industry veteran, they began a two year review of every available Web-to-Print platform.
As a result of RUSD’s lengthy review process, EFI Digital StoreFront (DSF) came out on top. After a small test-run and training of 1,200 employees, the entire school district went live in early 2009. Schreck’s department prints roughly 10,000 jobs during each school year, of which almost all are now submitted via DSF.

“Before, we received only 20 percent of jobs electronically, and now we’re close to 100 percent,” Schreck says. “DSF allows us to more quickly and more accurately process and complete the work.”

RUSD worked with the EFI team to create custom reports to meet their accounting requirements, ensuring the system automatically and properly charges each customer for every job.

Teachers and staff use DSF to order print jobs of all types, as well as office and janitorial supplies. Schreck’s department operates 12 black-and-white machines and 2 color devices, producing roughly 4 million pages each month of the school year. Once Digital StoreFront was in place, the department was able to cut two staff members and still keep up with the demand, saving the district $96,000 annually.

“I love Digital StoreFront! It’s quick and simple to use, which makes my life easier,” says Susanne Isaac, secretary to the principal at Gage Middle School. “Unlike our old paper trail system, I know that a request isn’t lost in the mail, and it’s easy to track where jobs are in the process. And the turn-around is incredibly fast.”
RESULTS:
“The efficiency that DSF has brought the department means we have been able to reduce our staff from three to one, saving $8,000 per month in payroll alone. The solution allows that sole operator to smoothly manage the 4 million copies we produce a month.”
—John Schreck, Manager of Publications

RUSD’s equipment is driven by EFI Fiery® controllers, providing consistent high-quality, vibrant color and blazing speed. The Fiery user interface, named Command WorkStation® (CWS), makes it easy for the operator to open the job and do a quick check for any errors, then send to the printer. Schreck also relies on CWS to provide a great “at a glance” look at what’s going on in the department.

Beyond printing classroom materials, RUSD has used Digital StoreFront in a unique way to realize significant savings—they have entered each textbook into the system so they can be ordered just like any other item. This has enabled the school district to centralize the warehousing of books, reducing inventory by $3.5 million and saving $2,600 per month.

The district plans to add screen printing and embroidery products to the system soon. The publications office also prints for other local school districts and nearby architects and businesses. RUSD plans to add these users to the DSF system in the future.
Print to win with EFI.

EFI ([www.efi.com](http://www.efi.com)) is a world leader in digital print servers and controllers, superwide format printers and inks, wide-format printers, industrial inkjet printing systems and Web-to-Print, Print MIS and Proofing solutions. EFI is dedicated to giving customers a competitive edge with award-winning, scalable solutions from creation to print that maximize productivity and increase profits. EFI maintains 23 offices worldwide.