

# Bishop Lynch High School Improves RTO and RPO Significantly by Using Datrium DRaaS with VMware Cloud on AWS and Built-In Backup



## BISHOP LYNCH HIGH SCHOOL CASE STUDY



Educational Institution  
[www.bishoplynch.org](http://www.bishoplynch.org)

### Challenge

Bishop Lynch High School needed a simpler, smarter disaster recovery (DR) and backup solution to protect its systems and data – now and in the future.

### Results

- Replaced a legacy Veeam backup solution, saving time and money
- Chose Disaster Recovery as a Service (DRaaS) with VMware Cloud on AWS which delivers cloud backup, reduced RTO, and ransomware recovery
- Easily met the goal of improving RTO from 1 week to achieving full data center recovery in four hours.
- RPO reduced from 24 hours to 60 minutes
- Built-in backups eliminated nightly backup debugging which reduced costs
- Improved performance and end-to-end encryption were additional benefits
- Easy-to-use and highly-reliable solution gave peace of mind to IT and end users, faculty, and students
- IT team was recognized for improved service

“With Datrium, we have a full backup and recovery solution for ransomware or any other disaster.”

### Gray Huggins

Director of Technology, Bishop Lynch High School

### Requirement

#### DR and Backup That Protects and Evolves

High school is all about getting young adults to look ahead and plan for the future. At Bishop Lynch High School, a Catholic preparatory school in eastern Dallas, the IT department wanted to mirror that mission by preparing for the future while protecting their current systems and data.

“This school is known for its academic excellence, and we want IT to support that with service excellence,” said Gray Huggins, Director of Technology at Bishop Lynch. “That means running all of our major applications efficiently, and it means protecting our school from ransomware and other threats with simple, effective backup and recovery processes.”

A key part of accomplishing that goal was upgrading the school’s server farm and storage capabilities. “We had last upgraded in 2009,” said Huggins. “Two years ago, we decided to replace that infrastructure with modern systems that could also give us better backup and DR, protect us against disasters and outages, and meet our needs for another 7-8 years. That’s when we discovered Datrium.”

### Results

#### DRaaS with VMware Cloud on AWS and Backup with Instant RTO

Two years ago, the IT department solicited bids for its modernization effort from the usual suspects. “We got the traditional arguments for hyperconverged architecture from the large server and storage vendors,” said Huggins. “But we learned about Datrium from another company we’re currently working with, so I started doing research and talking with Datrium about their strategy. Their architecture really got me excited. It really resonated with me.”

The ingenuity of Datrium’s disaggregated HCI solution and its ability to do DR with built-in backup and encryption in the cloud were impressive, according to Huggins. And the deployment was amazing.

“The implementation was just so clever,” Huggins said. “The way Datrium integrated their new technology into our old data center and moving the server load to the new ESXi hosts and storage was so clever. It turned into a VMware VM migration effort where both the previous system and the Datrium system were visible. The VMs were literally migrated through the standard approach of VM migration for server and CPU migration. We were able to bring over all of the VMs from our previous environment to the Datrium environment, from the old servers to the new servers, and I didn’t have any downtime at all. I was just absolutely stunned. It was almost embarrassingly simple.”

“Our RPO was 24 hours, and that had to be cut down to 60 minutes. Our RTO was about a week, and we were looking to achieve full data center recovery in four hours. With the Datrium DRaaS solution, I believe we’ll be able to do it.”

**Gray Huggins**  
Director of Technology, Bishop Lynch High School

#### **Achieves Key Metrics – In a Very Human Way**

The Datrium solution has enabled Bishop Lynch High School’s IT department to reach new thresholds for RPO (Recovery Point Objective), RTO (Recovery Time Objective), and performance. “Our RPO was 24 hours, and that had to be cut down to 60 minutes,” said Huggins. “Our RTO was about a week, and we were looking to achieve full data center recovery in four hours. With the Datrium DRaaS solution, I believe we’ll be able to do both.”

In terms of performance, backups now run fast and clean. According to Huggins, “It was a big problem with our older system. I’d have to spend several hours every day just troubleshooting problems.” With Datrium, all the VM backups are smooth, he reports, and IOPS performance is outstanding.

From a more human perspective, Huggins related the story of an encounter with a teacher. “One of our teachers had inadvertently deleted four gigabytes of files that he needed. And he said to me, ‘I guess I’m just toast.’ And I looked at him and said, ‘don’t worry, I’ve got backups.’ And the look on his face...! I was able to pull all his files within 15 minutes. He was stunned. He bought me a cup of coffee, and we both felt great about the whole thing.”

#### **Putting Costs in Perspective**

Cost pressures are a big concern for any high school IT department, and Bishop Lynch is no exception. “It’s very near and dear to my heart to try and control costs,” said Huggins. “The overall service level that we get with Datrium DRaaS solution makes this a very worthwhile investment. It’s going to bring us a lot more of something that’s always in short supply at IT: peace of mind.”

#### **About Bishop Lynch High School**

Bishop Lynch High School is a college preparatory Catholic High School in Dallas, Texas. The school provides academic excellence in a state-of-the-art institution, as well as arts and athletics, to give students a top-notch education and exciting on-campus experience. The school’s academic staff aims to make a difference in the lives of students, helping them succeed long after they have left campus. Bishop Lynch High School students earn more college credits than any other high school in the Dallas Metroplex – public or private.

Learn more about Datrium at [www.datrium.com](http://www.datrium.com).

