USERAUTHGUARD

CASE STUDY

Union City Public Schools

How one New Jersey district manages 13,000 active Chromebooks with a team that used to drown in spreadsheets

13,000+	Hours	1:1	Google
ACTIVE CHROMEBOOKS	SAVED DAILY	DEVICE PROGRAM	ADMIN IS THE SOURCE OF TRUTH

The Challenge

Union City Public Schools is one of the largest 1:1 Chromebook districts in New Jersey, with more than 13,000 active Chromebooks across multiple buildings in Hudson County. Every student gets a device. Every device needs to be tracked, assigned, maintained, and eventually collected.

At that scale, the Google Admin Console stops being a management tool. It has no real concept of device assignment, just a free-text "annotated user" field with no validation and no enforcement. Answering the most basic question in a 1:1 program, "who has this Chromebook?", meant digging through Admin sign-in logs and studying usage patterns, device by device, every single day.

The team stitched together five tools to compensate: Google Admin for the fleet, Google Sheets for assignments, the Gopher extension for bulk changes, GoGuardian to locate missing devices, and a service desk for tickets. Nothing enforced anything. Students switched, lost, or picked up devices without documentation, and the records quietly drifted from reality.

> "Before UserAuthGuard, managing Chromebooks was very manual and time-consuming. Students would sometimes switch devices, lose them, or receive a Chromebook without proper documentation at some schools. To figure out who a device belonged to, we often had to check Google Admin logs and study device usage. This process was prone to errors and required a lot of effort from the team."
>
> **Alex Castillo, Union City Public Schools**

The Solution

Union City deployed UserAuthGuard district-wide, connected directly to their Google Admin Console. All 13,000+ Chromebook records synced automatically, no manual data entry, no migration project, and the platform became the single source of truth the Admin Console never was.

Every Chromebook is now assigned to a specific student, with enforcement behind it: devices automatically verify the assigned user, so students can’t use a Chromebook that isn’t theirs. The daily log-digging investigations disappeared, ownership is a lookup, not a research project.

1:1 Device Assignment
Every device tracked to a student with full history

OU Locking
Devices locked to assigned organizational units

Repair Queue
Full repair workflow from intake to return

Loaner Management
Automated loaner assignment during repairs

Google Admin Automation
Real-time sync with Google Workspace

Instant Device Lookup
Any device by serial, asset tag, or student name, no log-digging

Implementation Timeline

1. **Google Admin Connection**
   Connected UserAuthGuard to Google Workspace via the official API. All 13,000+ device records synced automatically, no manual data entry.

2. **Device Assignments Established**
   Existing student-device assignments imported in bulk and matched to records across all buildings, replacing spreadsheets and free-text "annotated user" entries.

3. **Automatic User Verification**
   Every Chromebook now verifies its assigned user. Students can no longer use devices that aren’t theirs, accountability is enforced, not documented.

4. **Consolidated Operations**
   Bulk operations replaced the Gopher extension; assignment lookup replaced log-digging. One platform instead of five disconnected tools.

The Results

The biggest win is time. Investigating device ownership used to consume the team’s day, checking Google Admin logs, studying usage patterns, cross-referencing spreadsheets, multiplied across 13,000+ devices. That work is gone. Ownership is instant, and the team gets hours back every day.

Accountability changed with it. Chromebooks automatically verify the assigned user, so students can’t quietly swap or borrow devices. When something goes missing, the last responsible student is one lookup away.

Hours	Eliminated	Automatic	13,000+
Saved every day	Spreadsheet tracking	User verification	Active devices

See it on your own fleet

Free: every device and every assignment gap, no device cap, no credit card. See how UserAuthGuard handles it before paying to enforce.

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