Peak to Peak is a charter school located in Lafayette, Colorado that took a bold step in moving its school nutrition technology to a cloud-based system in the middle of the school year.

The result? A successful implementation that went smoothly from start to finish, and a system that has streamlined operations and simplified daily tasks.

Obstacles to Success
As part of the Boulder Valley School District, Peak to Peak receives operational funding like other schools in the district, yet the school manages its own budget and maintains financial responsibility for all school-related commitments.

Peak to Peak was responsible for the information technology (IT) functions associated with the school nutrition and library systems in place. With no IT resources on staff, Peak to Peak was paying a consultant to manage the server for these systems.

Solution
Seeking to eliminate this expense and streamline operations, Food Services Program Manager Elizabeth Begley began looking for a new system that would require less IT involvement. After carefully considering her options, Elizabeth chose Solana, Horizon’s cloud-based school nutrition technology solution.

Since the library was moving to a cloud-based system mid-year, Elizabeth also wanted to go ahead and implement the new system right away. In December, Peak to Peak switched over to Solana without a hitch. “It went quickly from inquiry to implementation,” Elizabeth says. “It was literally like a blink, and the new system was in place. The whole process was smooth.”

Benefits
Elizabeth was a little nervous about going live with Solana in the middle of the year, but she found there was no need for concern. “We literally have had no issues,” Elizabeth comments. “The cashiers took to the new system right away.”

Peak to Peak also started using PIN pads in their four serving lines when they implemented the new system, which could have caused some bumps in the road. Elizabeth was on stand-by the first day just in case anything came up, but nothing did. “There were no problems whatsoever,” Elizabeth adds. “Everything went smoothly, even with the students remembering their PINs. And, the cashiers appreciate not having to try and hear kids saying their names and numbers in a loud lunchroom.”

Elizabeth has also seen improvements in line speed and efficiency with Solana.

With the easy-to-use POS screen and the new PIN pads, we can process each student much faster.

ELIZABETH BEGLEY
Food Services Program Manager

“With the easy-to-use POS screen and the new PIN pads, we can process each student much faster,” Elizabeth notes. The cashiers are excited about Solana’s innovative features, like the PIN queue that lets them serve the students in any order and the journal view that makes it easy to go back and flag transactions or make adjustments.

Success Story Brief

• Customer Profile
Peak to Peak is a charter school located in Lafayette, Colorado near Boulder and the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. The school nutrition program serves 2,455 reimbursable meals each week to a student population of 1,450 in all grade levels.

• Obstacles to Success
Peak to Peak was responsible for the information technology (IT) functions associated with the school nutrition and library systems in place. With no IT resources on staff, Peak to Peak was paying a consultant to manage the server for these systems.

• Solution
• Solana, Horizon’s Cloud-Based System
Features Include:
• Point of Sale
• Student Eligibility Management
• Claim Reporting
• MyPaymentsPlus

• Benefits
Peak to Peak has seen many improvements since implementing Solana, including faster line speeds, more efficient daily tasks, and time savings. “With the easy-to-use POS screen and the new PIN pads, we can process each student much faster,” Elizabeth notes.

• Industry
K–12 Schools
Horizon Software International, an Atlanta-based technology company, is an innovative leader in software solutions for school nutrition program operations and online payments. We offer integrated front-of-house and back-of-house school nutrition technology solutions, as well as K-12 payment and registration systems for school meals, fees and activities. With district-hosted and cloud-based product offerings, Horizon provides customizable and scalable software solutions able to meet the needs and budget of any food service operation.