

# Ahmed Hanafy

Systems Administrator · Infrastructure Engineer · Cloud · Automation

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## Summary

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Infrastructure and systems professional with 14+ years keeping hybrid Windows, Linux, and macOS environments reliable and secure, frequently as the sole and/or lead engineer for organizations of up to 27,000 users. I do my best work translating messy infrastructure problems into clear plans, communicating those plans to leadership, and automating the result so the fix holds. I work comfortably across virtualization, cloud, identity, and disaster recovery, and I keep my skills current in a homelab I run like a small enterprise. I am looking for a fully remote role in infrastructure, systems administration, cloud, or IT operations, and I am open to international teams and flexible working hours.

## Experience

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**Paterson Public Schools** Paterson, NJ

Nov 2023 – May 2026

Senior Systems Engineer

*Lead infrastructure engineer for one of New Jersey's largest school districts: 43 sites, 27,000 students and staff, roughly 70 physical and virtual servers.*

- Briefed district leadership with data-driven reports on the fleet's security posture, covering operating-system versions, hardware readiness, and risk exposure. The analysis shaped the decision and the budget to retire aging devices and raise the district's overall security baseline.
- Led the migration of the entire virtualized server environment onto a modern hyperconverged platform, retiring legacy licensing costs and improving reliability for systems the whole district depends on.
- Customized an Okta-like identity management platform and built the integration scripts around it, rather than running it out of the box, to automate the full user lifecycle for tens of thousands of accounts and lay the groundwork for role-based access control.
- Modernized remote access with a zero-trust model and multi-factor authentication, shrinking the attack surface for staff working off-site.
- Introduced centralized security monitoring and routine vulnerability scanning, giving the district continuous visibility into threats and external exposure for the first time.
- Implemented automated, cloud-based backup and disaster recovery, establishing a tested recovery path and a real business-continuity guarantee for critical systems.

**Millburn Public Schools** Millburn, NJ

Aug 2022 – Nov 2023

Senior Systems Engineer

*Sole systems engineer for an eight-school district serving 5,500 students and staff.*

- Deployed enterprise mobile device management with zero-touch provisioning, so new devices configured themselves automatically and consistently and setup time per device dropped sharply.
- Re-architected Active Directory to enforce least-privilege separation between staff, students, and administrators, improving both security and day-to-day manageability.
- Consolidated several cloud identity tenants into one, simplifying administration and trimming licensing and support overhead.
- Automated account provisioning and removal directly from the student information system, eliminating manual errors and speeding onboarding.

**Teaneck Public Schools** Teaneck, NJ

Jul 2019 – Aug 2022

Systems Engineer

*Responsible for server and network infrastructure across eight schools and a central office, supporting 4,400 students and staff over a multi-site fiber network.*

- Migrated the district's virtual environment from VMware to Hyper-V, then engineered failover for core servers and internet connectivity, removing single points of failure and improving uptime.

- Hardened the district's email against spoofing and phishing, measurably reducing the fraudulent messages reaching staff inboxes.
- Managed enterprise firewalls and switching across every site, keeping connectivity secure and properly segmented.

**Olmec Systems** Denville, NJ

Feb 2019 – May 2019

Systems Administrator / Engineer (Managed Services)

- Supported multiple business clients in a managed-services model, resolving escalated infrastructure issues across virtualization, identity, and networking, both remotely and on-site, using ConnectWise Manage and SolarWinds N-Central.

**Chefman** Mahwah, NJ

Feb 2018 – Jul 2018

Manager of IT

- Led IT for a consumer-products company, owning infrastructure, cloud productivity, and end-user support across the organization.
- Designed and built the network for a new 50,000-plus square-foot warehouse from the ground up, supporting the company's operational expansion.

**GalaxE.Solutions** Somerset, NJ

Oct 2014 – Feb 2018

Systems Administrator

*Enterprise systems administration for 2,000 employees across two data centers in New Jersey and Michigan.*

- Administered more than 250 servers and a large virtualization environment, owning uptime for the company's core business systems.
- Automated routine administration through scripting, cutting repetitive manual work and improving consistency across the estate.
- Rolled out unified communications to 2,000 users and consolidated more than 1,500 accounts into a single directory, simplifying ongoing management.

**Earlier:** IT Support Specialist, TEAM Charter Schools / KIPP (2012–2013) · Computer Technician, Staples (2010–2012)

## Skills

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**Infrastructure & Cloud:** Virtualization and hyperconverged platforms (VMware, Nutanix, Hyper-V, Proxmox); Microsoft Azure and AWS; Windows and Linux server administration

**Identity & Security:** Active Directory and Entra ID, single sign-on and MFA, endpoint and mobile device management, backup and disaster recovery, security monitoring and vulnerability management

**Automation & AI:** Scripting and process automation, containerization with Docker and Kubernetes, and AI tooling (Claude, Gemini, ChatGPT) for troubleshooting and building internal tools

**Networking:** Enterprise firewalls and switching, VLAN segmentation, VPN, DNS and DHCP, centrally managed (SDN) networks

**Professional:** Stakeholder reporting and communication, project management, team building, technical documentation, customer service

## Homelab & Projects

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*An advanced, self-hosted homelab I run as a near-enterprise environment, and my proving ground for new tools before they reach production. Selected projects at [github.com/hanafytech](https://github.com/hanafytech).*

- Proxmox virtualization cluster running virtual machines and containers across a fully segmented network.
- Container orchestration with Docker and Kubernetes, hosting self-managed services and AI-assisted tools I build and deploy.
- Centrally managed network with VLAN segmentation, firewall policy, and a site-to-cloud VPN for hybrid integration.
- Local AI and language-model server, full monitoring and alerting, and NAS-based tiered backup that mirrors enterprise disaster-recovery practice.

## Education & Certifications

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County College of Morris, Randolph, NJ. Information Technology coursework.

Currently working toward a cloud administration certification.