

Online Security Guards: Protecting Students and Technology

Security issues are paramount in educational institutions today. Not only must student data remain secure, but students and faculty alike must be shielded from an onslaught of spam, viruses and malware invasions to stay productive. Because students and teachers access a school's infrastructure from a variety of devices and locations, network security challenges can drain IT staff time, effort and resources.

With the right tools, however, schools can monitor their networks and protect their data and network users without demanding a lot of time from network administrators and money from school budgets.

Securing the Network

Extensible Threat Management (XTM) from WatchGuard integrates a powerful firewall with virtual private network (VPN) and security subscriptions. Implementing XTM solutions allows school administrators to:

- Ensure only authorized students and teachers can access computer and network resources. They can also reinforce acceptable usage policies with detailed control over the applications and services users can access.
- Integrate anti-spam, Web content filtering, intrusion prevention, anti-virus and domain reputation checks to stop unauthorized access and block malware. Web surfing can be controlled with teacher overrides — even on HTTPS traffic.
- Enforce safety policies required by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and others so obscene, pornographic or harmful content is blocked or filtered.
- Engage proxy firewall architecture to control the use of instant messaging and peer-to-peer applications, thus reducing potential exposure to harmful content and malware.
- Secure remote connectivity and provide VPNs to permit students, teachers and administrators to communicate with one another securely.

- Track, monitor and review reports by users and user groups with easy management tools.

Defense In Depth

Along with XTM, WatchGuard Extensible Content Security (XCS) solutions for e-mail and Web applications deliver the industry's most effective spam and malware security for e-mail, Web and data loss prevention.

XCS appliances protect the network perimeter with a combination of defenses including "in-the-cloud" real-time monitoring of domain reputations, URL filtering, always-on e-mail security so you never lose a message, and granular reporting suitable for audit requirements and compliance needs.

WatchGuard Technologies' suite of network and content security solutions protect school data and users by delivering powerful technology along with reliable management, monitoring, logging and reporting capabilities.

Meeting Today's Security Challenges

WatchGuard Technologies helps schools address common network security concerns, including:

- Ensuring only authorized users have access to school networks
- Protecting against malware and preventing network security attacks
- Keeping networks protected from inside and outside intrusions
- Collecting and reporting robust data so technicians know their network status at any given time

WatchGuard builds affordable, all-in-one network and content security solutions to provide defense-in-depth for the organizations they power. WatchGuard solutions scale to offer right-sized security for small schools up to enterprise-like districts or universities. Since 1996, more than 600,000 WatchGuard signature red security appliances have been deployed worldwide. **Learn more at www.watchguard.com.**

