

Lakeview Academy is Best in Class with Webroot for Web, Email and Desktop Security

Lakeview Academy is an independent, college prep K-12 day school located on 88 acres in north Georgia, about 50 miles northeast of Atlanta. Lakeview produces responsible students who are prepared to lead lives distinguished by achievement and compassion. The school is known for its highly respected technology program. Available technology adds a heightened element of interactivity to the classroom, expanding the possibilities for expression, engagement, exploration, and real-world application. Connie White, Director of Technology and Media for Lakeview, leads the technology program including the 1:1 Laptop Program where every student has a laptop. While this proactive approach to technology distinguishes the school from most, it also brings with it the challenge of providing open access while protecting students from inappropriate web content.



The Problem

Lakeview's IT department secures email, web and desktops for over 500 students, faculty and administration. Before Webroot, the school was faced with a higher incidence of email spam bringing infections onto the network via targeted attacks and phishing schemes. "We were dissatisfied with our current email solution," White explains. "We needed better granular control, easier administration and better tech support."

In terms of web security, Lakeview middle and high school students are avid laptop users and early adopters of technology. These young learners actively use the collaboration tools offered by Web 2.0—wikis, blogs and Google apps. However, from an IT perspective, it became a complex issue to balance different age groups with varying access needs both on and off campus.

Lakeview chose Webroot for:

- Mobile user protection
- Granular policy control
- One vendor for email, web and desktop protection = trusted security advisor
- Cost savings

“Our school offers a twenty-first century environment for our students,” says White. “We open the world up for them in terms of Web 2.0 technologies and tools so that they can learn to collaborate and problem solve in creative ways. However, we also need to guard them from the bad stuff that’s out there—and that’s why we chose Webroot for antimalware protection.”

Lakeview’s most significant concern occurred when students and faculty took laptops off campus, and were sometimes not adequately protected because they were off-network. Users were surfing legitimate websites only to receive a pop-up for a fake virus alert which would trick them into clicking on a link to install virus protection, when in reality—it was installing malware. Lakeview needed robust mobile protection and full computer security for all users.

The Solution

Lakeview had been a Webroot endpoint customer since 2006 and was pleased with the desktop protection. When it came time to evaluate security for email and web, naturally they turned to their trusted security advisor. They saw a demo of Webroot Email Security Service in the fall of 2009 and the installation and deployment were seamless. Then, in 2010 with the growth of the 1:1 Program, Web security came to the forefront and again, Lakeview chose Webroot.

“Webroot has been with us every step of the way. We have complex needs for web security with our student population and Webroot Web Security Service is the only solution we found that meets those needs for granular group policy and mobility protection,” White explains.

Benefits

White is thankful to have a solution in place that fits the complex needs of her end users. “The best thing about the web solution is the flexibility it gives us. Our middle schoolers need to be guided at this age in terms of where they go on the web—but our high schoolers need to learn to manage themselves. Webroot’s Web Security enables us to customize web access according to which group the student is in—and that not only makes us happy, but it makes the parents happy.”

Students are now safely protected by Webroot for email, web and desktop protection both on and off the network. White is impressed not only with the high levels of security Webroot provides but also the cost savings of going to one vendor.

“The Education sector has experienced budget cuts just like those in the business sector—we have to do more with less. Webroot gives us worry-free security and enables us to empower our students with technology so we can focus on helping them make the right choices and reaching their highest potential.”

Comments

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**—Connie White
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