



Client:
Daviness County Public Schools

Location:
Owensboro, KY

Website:
www.daviness.kyschools.us

Number of Students:
Approximately 11,500 in K - 12

Requirements:
Ability to control Internet usage of student assigned laptops for 1:1 program

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Matthew Constant
Director of Instructional Technology;
Daviness County Public Schools

The Client

Centrally situated in Owensboro, Kentucky, Daviness County Public Schools (DCPS) consists of 3 high schools, 3 middle schools and a dozen elementary schools, with approximately 11,500 students enrolled in grades K through 12. The Mission of the district includes preparing students to succeed in life by meeting the needs of individual students, providing quality instruction and developing a learning community. To help support these goals, DCPS is focused on allowing 21st century activities that include the adoption of the Internet and other leading edge technologies that enable and foster a safe and productive learning and teaching environment.

The Challenge

When DCPS made the decision to roll out a 1:1 computing program to its high school students, a number of challenges immediately presented themselves. The most significant of these challenges was how to control the Internet usage of these new Lenovo devices both in the classroom and when they leave the school.

As part of the investigative process, DCPS contacted their current filtering provider. Initially, an LDAP authentication configuration was proposed; however, due to a state mandated proxy filter in place, the students could easily disengage the proxy and then access an unrestricted Internet.

“The kids are smart. If they can find a way to circumvent the filter they will. Even on our core network of machines, the students are getting around the filter, primarily through the use of anonymous proxies,” said Matthew Constant, Director of Instructional Technology at Daviness County Public Schools.

The Solution

After a review of the primary requirements, Netsweeper proposed a solution that involved the silent distribution of a client filter application through the district’s Active Directory. As students logged onto their laptops after this utility was ‘pushed out’, each device was being filtered based on a set of policies established by the central IT administration team.

“After investigating these challenges with our current filtering provider and reviewing a number of other platforms, it was unanimously decided that the Netsweeper application offered the most effective solution to manage our filtering requirements for the 1:1 program. Not



About Netsweeper Inc.

Netsweeper provides a CIPA compliant web content filtering and web threat management solution that empowers educational authorities to create and manage a safe and productive teaching and learning environment. By controlling Internet access to inappropriate content, web applications and streaming media sites, school authorities can mitigate liability concerns while preserving network performance, data security and reliability.

When integrating 1:1 eLearning initiatives, Netsweeper plays a key role by ensuring Internet activity on student mobile laptops remains within the boundaries of Acceptable Use regardless of where or how these devices connect to the Internet. Operating as a service solution, Netsweeper requires minimal overhead or resources to implement, configure and manage.

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only can we ensure that students use these devices productively while at school, the solution continues to filter according each user's policy even when they leave the school," said Matthew Constant.

"But the most unique feature provided by Netsweeper," continued Mr. Constant, "is its ability to allow the parents access to the client filter system, whereby they can modify the user policy of their child's device for after school use. This feature allows parents to open access to sites that are regularly blocked by the school's policies, to lock down Internet usage at a certain hour each night and to obtain detailed reporting regarding their child's Internet use. This is a huge advantage and will absolutely help drive the success of this 1:1 initiative."

The Results

When asked what ultimately lead DCPS to select Netsweeper over their existing and other industry vendors, Matthew Constant replied, "The power of the laptop client that enables parental control, the system's ability to block anonymous proxies in real-time and the easy-to-use administration tools that provide user friendly control over what can be blocked, when, and by whom."

Over the next few months, Daviness County Public Schools plans to rollout Netsweeper across its network to include all 6,500 workstations which will include personal computers and teacher laptops.

"The teachers are not yet on the program but will be as of this coming summer," added Matthew. "The teachers are really positive about this initiative. We have always walked a tight rope over the use of social networking sites for educational use. With Netsweeper in place, we have already started to allow and disallow the sites that are educationally justifiable and of use in the class. Web pages that used to be blocked are now accessible and the teachers are very happy with these advancements."

