Ceiba Public Schools

Introduction

This case study of Ceiba Public Schools is based on a December 2020 survey of SonicWall NSA firewall customers by TechValidate, a 3rd-party research service.

"SonicWall was able to help me select a device that our small public school could afford that met our needs. For the price, I don’t think you will find a more feature-rich and workable solution."
—Mike Rich, Director, Digital Learning

Challenges

Ceiba Public Schools fosters exceptional, sustainable public charter schools that close the college completion gap on California’s central coast, preparing low-income students in non-urban communities for college.

“Our old firewall failed,” says Rich. “We were limping along on an old server running IPFire. We had to find a stable solution fast that was affordable on a small school budget.”

Rich sought to lower the total cost of ownership for the school’s network security, while still ensuring quality service and support.

Use Case

“Our firewall sits between our fiber connection and our network, providing the bulk of our attack prevention and filtering,” reports Rich. “We’re also using it to provide DHCP service to our WiFi network. We are completely serverless.”

With the assistance of his service provider, Virtual Graffiti, Inc., Rich evaluated Cisco Meraki and Barracuda before selecting a SonicWall NSA series next-generation firewall solution.

“The NSa beat the competition in security effectiveness, and provided the best security value for all the networking features I need.”

Results

“SonicWall NSa firewalls are reasonably priced with great feature sets, and are easy to set up,” says Rich. “I’m extremely satisfied.”

He reports that since deploying his SonicWall NSa solution, the organization has reduced total cost of ownership and IT infrastructure costs. He also states it has improved data protection of critical information and helped meet regulatory compliance standards, all while enhancing overall system uptime.