

GOFFSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ENSURES CIPA COMPLIANCE ACROSS DISTRIBUTED SCHOOL NETWORK

SonicWall offers integrated, cost-effective solution

Business need

The Goffstown School District in New Hampshire is a public school district that supports over 3,500 students. All buildings in the district are connected via a 10 Gb/s fiber network with a synchronous, gigabit Internet connection located at the high school (the hub of the network topology).

Due to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), maintaining multiple content filter policies is an important consideration for the district. Plus, performing regular maintenance & documenting configuration changes at a building level had become very cumbersome.

Three years ago, the district deployed a dark fiber WAN in a hub and spoke configuration with a high bandwidth Internet circuit at the hub location.

Solution

To handle the traffic from seven buildings and nearly 4,000 combined users, the district deployed a SonicWall SuperMassive 9200 at the perimeter of their network. The district runs SonicWall's Comprehensive Gateway Security Suite on this device, including CIPA-complaint content filtering. They also use SonicWall Analyzer for real-time web traffic reporting.

Prior to deploying the SuperMassive at the edge, each building had its own (smaller) SonicWall security appliance, ranging from a NSA 3600s to a NSA 2400s. Those firewalls are still in place and serve to provide failover service in the event a (dark) fiber link to the network hub goes down.

Results

"SonicWall has allowed us to create a DMZ and bring our servers in-house for better local access with the confidence that they are secure and well protected," says Gary Girolimon, IT Director. "We used our SonicWall to give specific employees remote access to network assets."

Maintaining a single, primary firewall appliance (with a failover firewall available as needed) simplified many of the complexities previously faced by the district. "Address Objects provide the foundational building blocks that enable us to identify a specific



"SonicWall gives us an integrated, cost-effective solution for our organization's security needs."

**GARY GIROLIMON, IT DIRECTOR
GOFFSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Company	Goffstown School District
Industry	Primary/K-12 Education
Country	United States

hosts, networks, and IP ranges. We then use those building blocks when declaring firewall rules, app policies, and VPN permissions.”

The content filtering solution that SonicWall integrates into their firewalls simplifies CIPA compliance. The same is true of the VPN tunnels that we utilized prior to the installation of our dark fiber WAN.

“SonicWall is easy to administer, with a flexible UI, and the solution is super reliable,” says Girolimon. “When budget allows, we plan to deploy SonicWall’s high availability solution. However, we have yet to encounter a situation where we have had downtime attributable to our SonicWall firewall.”

Benefits

- CIPA-complaint content filtering
- Real-time web traffic reporting
- Less complexity
- Easy administration
- Flexible UI
- Highly reliable

Solutions at a glance

- SuperMassive Next-Generation Firewall
- [NSA Next-Generation Firewalls](#)
- [Comprehensive Gateway Security Suite](#)