





How Carbon County strengthened student safety with a single edtech provider

1,800

student devices protected, wherever they go

180

teachers keeping students on task and engaged in learning 1

point of contact and one bill streamlines edtech management



Challenge

Cloud-based web filtering that keeps students protected on school devices wherever they are

Joshua Jerome, Chief Technology Officer for Carbon County School District One in Wyoming, first arrived at the district in 2013. As a new CTO, his sights were set high: His vision was firmly fixed on the cloud.

Providing a lower price point, less management, and more security, the benefits of cloud-based solutions were obvious. In addition, cloud-based services offered more visibility for all stakeholders, including parents.

In his first year, Joshua overhauled the district's technology infrastructure, including upgrading the network, wireless, servers, and battery backup system; establishing email accounts for every student; and moving as many applications and processes as possible to cloud-based or hosted services.

He also needed to ensure that school-issued student devices would be protected by a secure and CIPA-compliant web filter, even when they went home or off the network. "We own the devices; how much liability do we have?" he asked at the time. "How do we protect ourselves? How do we protect our students and ensure they are safe?"



Solution

Keep student safe, secure, and ready to learn with a single, trusted partner

Joshua found the cloud filter he needed from Securly. Carbon County, which serves 1,800 K-12 students across five buildings, implemented Securly Filter in 2016 to protect students on school devices—whether those devices are on or off campus. Then in 2018, Joshua added Securly Classroom, a cloud-based classroom management tool, and mobile device management (MDM) to the mix.

Carbon County is fortunate to have active, engaged teachers who circulate around the room and provide individualized instruction, but they can't be everywhere at once. With Securly Classroom, teachers are able to monitor students' activity on their Chromebooks from their own computer. They can see if students are focused on classwork or, if they're distracted by other content, they can get them back on task.

Following the successful implementation of Classroom, the district next implemented Securly Aware to gain more oversight of students' safety and wellness. Given his positive experience with Filter and Classroom, bundling in additional Securly products made perfect sense to Joshua, both financially and for ease of use.

Securly Aware uses AI and advanced technologies to scan students' online interactions, and alert designated school personnel when it detects warning signs of depression, self-harm, suicide, bullying, and violence.

The addition of Securly On-Call was the logical next step. On-Call is a team of highly trained student safety specialists who conduct a thorough analysis of Aware alerts round-the-clock, and escalate response to school or emergency personnel when high-risk situations are identified.

Initially, the district had looked into hiring a full-time "safety person" to field such alerts. "But my special services director was a huge advocate of getting the combination of AI technology to generate alerts and actual human beings reviewing that activity," says Joshua. "Securly provides both."



Outcomes

"Securly products and services have helped me secure the trust of school administrators, teachers, students, and parents."

With Securly, Joshua was able to streamline edtech vendor management. At the same, he built a solid technology foundation on which to support students' safety and wellness, and keep them engaged in learning.

Joshua says that trust was a key factor in his initial choice of Securly, as well as his decision to choose Securly when adding additional edtech tools.

"I need products and services that allow us to have the safest and most secure scenarios, and good relationships with our partners so that they can further help with our quest to provide a quality education. I'm big on having one partner to do everything," he says, "and Securly provides that."

Having several edtech tools consolidated through one trusted partner has been a boon for Joshua, who has to manage around 50 vendors total: 20 for his district's educational apps and another 30 for network and infrastructure.

With Securly, Joshua has one point of contact and one bill. Not only does this save him time and headaches, but, as he says, "if you build a relationship so that your technology partner knows exactly what you want, your culture, and how you want it done, you're going to be way more effective. Our Securly customer success manager has taken the time to truly understand our device management needs and student safety goals."

By partnering with Securly, Carbon County is:

- 🗸 Keeping students protected on school devices, wherever they go
- Helping teachers defeat technology distractions in the classroom
- 🗸 Knowing which students are experiencing safety and wellness issues so they can intervene early, or immediately in critical situations

The open and effective collaboration and communication Joshua enjoys with Securly is in turn passed along to his "customers"—the students, teachers, and families of Carbon County. By doing his job efficiently and effectively, they're able to do theirs better, too, which is delivering and receiving a quality education supported by safety and security.



Explore all of the ways your technology team can help support student safety, wellness, and engagement

