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FORTINET DELIVERS SIMPLIFIED, COST-EFFECTIVE NETWORK SECURITY FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

KEY SECURITY CHALLENGES FOR K-12 ENVIRONMENTS

K-12 schools face increasing network security risks due to the adoption of new learning initiatives, bring-your-own-device (BYOD), and the embrace of cloud computing. In addition, aging networks, legacy security, and a lack of awareness of cyber threats by students and staff make K-12 schools an attractive target for cyber criminals.

With limited staff and IT budgets, it's critical for K-12 school districts to choose the right security vendor. Security not only must be effective in stopping the latest threats but it must also be efficient and easy to manage, thus reducing IT resource needs and total cost of ownership (TCO).

K-12 SOLUTION REQUIREMENTS

The unique needs of K-12 schools and districts require a unique approach to security.

It's a given that security must work. Keeping out all manner of threats is job one. But there are a lot of elements that go into ensuring network security can do its job. For example, a primary objective of securing the network is to make sure it delivers reliable performance with 100 percent uptime. Therefore, in addition to stopping threats aimed at taking down a network, security must also be powerful and scalable enough to not slow it down.

Given resource constraints, security management must be simplified and centralized, and there should be single-pane-of-glass visibility across the entire network. Collecting and aggregating data from numerous security systems to understand whether threats are adequately being stopped is too time-consuming to be practical.

The same holds true for demonstrating regulatory compliance. Built-in compliance features for automatic tracking and reporting make it possible to know (and show) right away whether compliance standards are being met.

It's also important to note that security can't do its job if it has to wait for a person to tell it what to do, especially if that person must slog through countless security logs to figure it out. The speed at which threats proliferate makes it critical for security to automatically respond to them.

To achieve all of the above, a security solution must cover all attack vectors in the network, from the cloud, to web applications, to the network, to the endpoint. It must deliver high performance, and it must be integrated for centralized visibility, compliance reporting, and fast, automated response to threats.

FORTINET DELIVERS COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY FOR K-12

FORTINET'S STRATEGIC DIFFERENTIATOR—THE FORTINET SECURITY FABRIC

Fortinet delivers a unique approach to security. The architecture, called the Fortinet Security Fabric, integrates Fortinet and Fabric-Ready Partner products to enable easier management, better protection, and automation of time-consuming tasks.

As part of the Fabric ecosystem, Fabric-Ready Partner solutions in K-12 environments can be integrated with the Fortinet Security Fabric. School districts can leverage existing investments while still gaining the time savings and stronger security of an integrated security architecture.

"The FortiGate enables us to eliminate multiple points of failure, simplify our infrastructure, and save money; all at the same time!"

— Steven Wright,
Communications and Technical Systems Manager,
Manatee County School District

"Fortinet understands the unique challenges we're facing in education to deliver meaningful learning opportunities to students while maintaining the necessary levels of security."

— John McCormick,
Associate Chief Information Officer
Upper Grand District School Board

"For us, it was all about the throughput. That's why we chose the Fortinet integrated security platform. We needed comprehensive support for our current BYOD needs and increased scalability for the coming years through 2020."

— Frankie Jackson,
Chief Technology Officer
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District

FORTINET'S EASY-TO-MANAGE, PROVEN SOLUTIONS ARE IDEAL FOR K-12

Fortinet provides integrated security solutions to protect the whole network:

Network Security. Protects the network from known and unknown threats. FortiGate Next-Generation Firewalls include multiple security and networking controls as well as a Wi-Fi controller in a single platform for reduced complexity, ease of management, and lower TCO.

Multi-Cloud Security. Reduces complexity by protecting the expanded attack surface across Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) applications as well as private and Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) cloud deployments, all with a single solution.

Endpoint Security. Detects and blocks malicious objects from web, email, network, and personal storage targeting endpoint devices. FortiClient delivers easy-to-manage, automated, fully customizable endpoint security for a wide range of devices, including Chromebooks.

Email Security. Inspects email for unwanted and malicious messages and inappropriate/sensitive content. FortiMail provides comprehensive security for both incoming and outgoing messages and is easy to deploy, operate, and manage.

Web Application Security. Protects web applications from threats targeting known and unknown exploits. FortiWeb (web application firewall) uses the latest threat intelligence to protect web applications from sophisticated attacks while lowering management and operational costs.

Advanced Threat Protection. Detects intrusions that have evaded conventional, established defenses. FortiSandbox isolates and inspects any suspicious files detected by security tools to stop them before damage is done.

Management and Analytics. Enables visibility and management of Fortinet and partner products for smooth operation and greater insight. Reduced cost and complexity with centralized control of the entire network from a single console drive a lower TCO. Automated reporting helps track compliance.

Unified Access. Fortinet's secure access solutions deliver comprehensive security and access control for secure Wi-Fi and enable secure user/admin connectivity.

WHY FORTINET IS THE BEST CHOICE FOR K-12

With more than 340,000 customers, Fortinet is the fastest-growing enterprise network security company in the world and the No. 1 most-adopted network security solution.

Fortinet's K-12 solution delivers everything needed for reliable, effective security: top-rated technology and threat intelligence, faster performance, and a unique fabric approach to cover all attack surfaces and reduce complexity. In addition, Fortinet is committed to regular independent third-party testing to validate product effectiveness and performance.

Fortinet invests heavily in research and development (R&D) and holds four times more patents than any other network security vendor. One key benefit of in-house R&D is the custom, purpose-built security processors that radically boost performance, enabling Fortinet firewalls to deliver the best price per performance in the industry.

To ensure top protection from the latest threats, Fortinet's 200-plus in-house threat intelligence experts work around the clock to discover and analyze threats and to deliver countermeasures in the form of continuous updates to the Fortinet Security Fabric.

To validate product effectiveness and performance, Fortinet frequently participates in third-party tests, consistently earning top scores. Fortinet has earned "Recommended" ratings for nine different products in tests by NSS Labs, an independent research and testing organization. This is more than any other network security vendor. Fortinet also regularly receives certifications from ICSA Labs, Virus Bulletin, and more. These unbiased validations let consumers know which products perform the best and deliver the lowest TCO, helping them make informed decisions.

Similarly, research and advisory firm Gartner provides insights on technology and vendors to help business leaders make purchasing decisions. Multiple Fortinet solutions can be found in Gartner Magic Quadrants, including Enterprise Network Firewall, UTM, Wired and Wireless LAN, and Web Application Firewall.

PROVEN SECURITY WITH LOWER TCO: A WINNING COMBINATION FOR K-12

Fortinet's comprehensive, easy-to-manage solutions address the security challenges facing K-12 schools and districts. With a unique architecture that saves time and resources while delivering fast performance and top security, Fortinet is the ideal K-12 security partner.

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