

iboss Partners With Bristol Township Schools to Fulfill Digital Promise for Students

Overview

Digital Promise is a bipartisan non-profit organization dedicated to bringing technology learning resources to underserved schools across the country. The program is designed to help students get equal access to the digital learning tools they need to graduate from high school, enter college and prepare for a career. As part of their efforts, Digital Promise recently partnered with Verizon to help close the digital learning gap for eight middle schools that were identified as needing assistance.

Among the schools they chose were two from Levittown, PA in the Bristol Township School District. Each student in these schools and their teachers were given a Samsung tablet enabling them to collaborate with each other and use software and apps designed to enhance and enrich their learning experiences. Director of technology for the district, Robert Pfau, was eager to support this new initiative and wanted to make sure that he could connect and secure the new tablets to protect students and the school network, while also ensuring enforcement of CIPA compliance requirements and his school's AUP.

The Challenge

Although Bristol had been evaluating a mobile device management solution, they were less than satisfied with the results. For instance, they were having trouble pushing apps to their students and would have to go through a two-step process to accomplish this. "I would have to put the tablet into 'kiosk mode' so apps could be used. To add a new app, I would have to take it out of kiosk mode, install the app and then put it back to kiosk. The process was very time-consuming," Pfau said. He explained that the MDM they were evaluating seemed to demand an all-or-nothing approach. For example, they wanted to block access to the Google Play Store, but it didn't provide the granular control needed to close it, without jeopardizing access to apps the students needed. Another problem was the fact that many of the features that Samsung offered had to be disabled, in order for the the MDM software to function properly. Since one of the reasons Bristol chose Samsung tablets was the features, this represented a significant stumbling block for the entire Samsung deployment. Finally, the MDM they were evaluating lacked the ease of directory services integration Bristol felt was mandatory in order to ensure accurate reporting and CIPA compliance enforcement.

The Solution

Bristol chose iboss Web Security and iboss MobileEther™ MDM to streamline their ability to implement the Samsung tablet program driven by Digital Promise and Verizon. They chose iboss in order to take advantage of MobileEther's features including integrated cloud Web security and full-featured MDM. iboss had the capabilities Robert Pfau's team were seeking, including:

- ✓ iboss Cloud Web Security integrated with MDM to extend iboss protection across all users, regardless of device, quickly and effortlessly.



Company:
Bristol Township
School District

Industry:
Education

Location:
Levittown, PA

Size:
13 Schools
1,100 Samsung Tablets
3,000 Workstations

Solutions:
iboss SWG
MobileEther

- ✓ Granular application control with the ability to push apps, update content on- or off-premises, and restrict or allow app store access.
- ✓ Seamless Directory Integration and Authentication that allows users to easily bind devices to directory services to ensure that Web access and mobile device profiles are based on the directory profiles, and consolidated through a central management interface, which greatly simplifies setup, management, and maintenance.
- ✓ Dynamic Content Awareness and Reporting is fully integrated with the iboss Threat and Event Console Reporter giving IT granular visibility across all users and devices to ensure regulatory and AUP compliance.
- ✓ iboss intuitive and interactive user interface is highly-responsive and includes guided interactive wizards, and customizable reporting templates.

The Results

Since choosing iboss Web Security and iboss MobileEther MDM, Bristol has experienced a world of difference in their ability to implement the Samsung tablet program driven by Digital Promise and Verizon. "MobileEther MDM is very intuitive and we love the granular controls," Pfau commented. "The fact that I can have access to Samsung's OS, affords me much better control over users and saves time, as well." With iboss MobileEther, Pfau was able to control user access and easily push apps so that students and teachers can take full advantage of the Samsung tablet's capabilities. In addition, the ability of MobileEther MDM to easily and automatically integrate with their directory services, means that the Bristol School District can count on accurate, individualized reporting.

iboss' ease of authentication and enrollment saved Pfau hours of IT time. "We were able to teach one classroom how to enroll their devices and those students quickly showed their friends how to do it, it was that easy. This not only saved IT resources, but it proved to be of great value to students to be able to enroll devices on their own," he said.



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Robert Pfau
Director of technology

About iboss Cybersecurity

iboss Cybersecurity defends today's large, distributed organizations against targeted cyber threats which lead to data loss, with the iboss next-gen Secure Web Gateway Platform, leveraging innovative cloud architecture and patented advanced threat defense technologies. iboss advanced solutions deliver unparalleled visibility across all inbound/outbound data channels, and include security weapons that reveal blind spots, detect breaches and minimize the consequences of data exfiltration. With leading threat protection and unsurpassed usability, iboss is trusted by thousands of organizations and millions of users. Visit www.iboss.com.