

Creating safer learning environments

*How WiFi and mobility technology
can improve the safety of schools
and campuses.*

HOW CAN WE MAKE OUR SCHOOLS SAFER?

From acts of violence to cybercrime, there are lots of threats for schools to be concerned about. And for many schools, traditional security measures haven't kept pace with these threats – leaving faculty, students, and parents anxious about safety and security.

As the physical and digital risks to our students and educators have become more complex, many schools feel they aren't making the progress they want to and it's frustrating for everyone from board members to IT teams. But the good news is that some schools across the country are making progress by investing in newer technologies that not only improve safety, but also enhance learning.

At Internetwork Engineering, we believe that with the right people, process and technology you can:



Take meaningful action against the threats of violence, intimidation, crime, and cyberattacks



Create a safer learning environment for your school, college, or university



Enhance learning opportunities for students, as well as teaching capabilities for educators

In this eBook, we'll take a deeper dive into the safety concerns and shortcomings that schools like yours are facing, and share the technology and services that can help you overcome them. Let's begin by taking a more in-depth look at the safety concerns in schools and where traditional security deployments are falling short.

Physical and digital threats

Students and educators are facing both physical and digital threats, and traditional security measures are no longer enough.



1 in 10 public schools reported at least one serious violent incident in the 2015-2016 school year¹



In a two-year period, **80% of teachers** said they were physically victimized¹



Student record breaches are reported to have a resolution cost of **\$245 per record**¹



A recent cyberattack resulted in 27 teachers **losing a total of \$50,000**¹

SAFETY CONCERNS AND WHERE TYPICAL SECURITY DEPLOYMENTS ARE FALLING SHORT

When it comes to educational safety, the protection of students, educators, staff, and visitors is top of mind for everyone engaged in the school community. While tragic events attract the headlines, safety is a daily concern for today's schools with the growing number of physical and digital threats:

Physical threats

Tragic events are always a possibility, but today there are more common threats to the safety of students, educators, staff, and visitors.

- Threats of physical violence
- Fights and robberies
- Unauthorized parents/visitors
- Teacher victimization
- Bus and transportation accidents

Digital threats

Digital threats are becoming more real as schools adopt 1:1 technology and implement modern technology to store student data.

- Theft or misuse of student data
- Targeted phishing scams
- Ransomware
- Cyberbullying
- Personal devices on school networks

Physical and cyber threats are beginning to converge

- ✓ Ransomware is being deployed to educators and administrators that also includes threats of physical harm if they don't pay
- ✓ Physical bullying has always existed but as it continues to make its way into school-provided devices, it poses even more of a threat

Most schools have made investments to combat these concerns by continuing to invest in technology, training, entry control systems, and video cameras. This seems like progress, but why don't our K12 schools, colleges, and universities feel safer? Because traditional security measures haven't kept pace with today's physical and digital threats. A lot of the investments in technology have been made over a school's lifetime, which often results in poorly integrated systems with disparate components that are five to ten years old. For many schools, the reality is that:

Systems are siloed

Visitor screening, access control, communications, student devices, and surveillance run as separate systems and can't send information externally.

Missing or outdated equipment

Important systems like video cameras offer poor image quality, can't trigger proactive action or alerts, and lack analytics capabilities.

Reactive processes

Policies are unclear and reactive because systems are unable to identify early indicators of potential risks and notify administrators.

Additionally, these siloed systems and aging technology can be costly to maintain and monitor – and a lot of schools don't have the depth of IT experience or specialized skills required to manage this complexity.

Although there are plenty of investments that can be made to address these realities, very few will provide as great of an ROI as WiFi as-a-Service from Internetwork Engineering. From enabling the deployment of WiFi cameras and URL filtering to high-density bandwidth support, it provides a robust wireless infrastructure that's helping schools become more resilient against today's physical and digital threats, while also addressing classroom needs.

IMPROVE YOUR THREAT RESILIENCY AND ENHANCE LEARNING WITH WIFI AS-A-SERVICE

What if you could easily protect student and school devices from accessing the wrong content? What if instead of grainy video, staff could clearly see who was trying to enter your school and identify them as a threat, or not? What if you could provide high-density bandwidth to all your systems and student devices to enhance learning capabilities? Through WiFi as-a-Service, you can enable outcomes like this in your school. It can provide a robust and secure wireless network foundation that will enable a variety of other use cases to better protect your school and improve learning opportunities:



Next-gen video surveillance

Implement WiFi cameras throughout your school or campus:

- Improve the quality of video and proactively identify threats
- See, stream, store, and playback video feeds from any location
- Integrate surveillance with acoustic systems and law enforcement



Location and device analytics

Leverage location-based analytics from devices, video, and ID tags:

- Safely route students, staff, and educators away from threats
- Track and manage the location and route of bus fleets
- Identify known/unknown devices in your school and control information access



RFID-based ID tags

Introduce electronic badging and high-value asset tracking:

- Enable smart control for doors, gates, and parking systems
- Improve access and control of visitors to your school
- Enable location tracking of staff, students, visitors, or other high-value items



Secure, 1:1 device initiatives

Leverage your secure network foundation to also improve learning:

- Support high-density campus or classroom environments
- Ensure student and classroom data is always protected
- Improve the impact or capabilities of distance learning programs for students

WiFi as-a-Service includes everything you need – from access points to administration – and often doesn't require a wholesale replacement of other legacy systems. Rather, it can be built on top of much of the infrastructure you already have in place. And after the foundation of a secure network is in place, we are able to layer WiFi-enabled video surveillance, access control, and analytics to further improve safety, and lower operational costs.

Why Internetwork Engineering?

Technology doesn't always have the intended impact unless it's designed, deployed and operated the right way. At Internetwork Engineering, we're known for our network and security expertise across the country. Our lifecycle processes are second to none and we have years of experience working in the education space. As an organization, we are always customer first – so you can rest assured that we'll help you leverage modern technology to create a safer learning environment for your school while also improving teaching capabilities.

Learn how you can benefit from the progress other schools are making

Schedule an initial meeting with us to discuss where you'd like to improve in regards to security. We'll answer your questions, assess your school's environment, and share how other schools are leveraging mobility and wireless technology to create a safer learning environment for their students, educators, staff, and visitors.

[Schedule a Meeting](#)

[704.540.5800](tel:704.540.5800)

NOT READY FOR A MEETING?

Ask a question and get an answer through email from an education technology expert – education@ineteng.com



ABOUT INTERNETWORK ENGINEERING (IE)

At IE, we are people connecting people. Since 1996, IE has been connecting people to their customers, coworkers, suppliers, patients, citizens, and students throughout the Southeast, creating more meaningful interactions with the people you care about most. Our mission is to provide technology solutions that inspire innovation and achievement, knowing that the right technology at the right time has the power to transform industries, countries, and lives.