



### The Organization

Crete-Monee School District 201-U  
760 West Exchange Street  
Crete, IL 60417  
www.cm201u.org

### The Challenge

- Lack of visibility into bandwidth
- Ensuring CIPA compliance
- Cyber-bullying
- Increased class sizes

### The SonicWALL Solution

- SonicWALL E-Class Network Security Appliance E6500
- SonicWALL Secure Remote Access Appliance 4200
- SonicWALL Content Filtering Service
- SonicWALL ViewPoint™

### The Results

- Optimized bandwidth
- Cost-savings due to bandwidth management
- CIPA compliance
- Ease-of-management

Just thirty minutes south of Chicago, Crete-Monee School District 201-U is located in a dynamic, largely professional community. This award-winning district boasts one of the most envied mathematics programs in the State of Illinois, a national championship choral music program and a full menu of varsity athletics. With a growing population of over 5,000 students in grades K-12, Crete-Monee School District represents a wide range of social, cultural and religious backgrounds.

The district's network connects 10 buildings in a ten-mile radius, including an early learning center, three elementary schools, a middle school, a sixth grade center and a high school.

"We have around 52 servers, running Microsoft® Windows® 2003, Windows 2008, and Exchange 2007," said Tom Gawczynski, network administrator at Crete-Monee School District. "The solution integrates nicely with our Cisco® back-end and Cisco VoIP telephone system."

The district's student applications are largely web-based and include Mathletics.com, Moodle.org and Scholastic Read 180. At one site, teachers use SMART interactive whiteboards to teach high school curricula remotely over the WAN.

### The challenge: cyber-bullying and lack of visibility into bandwidth

"Cyber-bullying is huge right now," commented Gawczynski. "We need flexible content filtering that can permit Deans to access Facebook and monitor suspicious activity, while blocking students from accessing it in the classroom."

With tighter budgets and class sizes increasing to over 30 students, teachers are less able to closely monitor student activity in computer labs. Previously, the district applied a single default content list, which was not integrated with Active Directory. This meant that a site would have to be blocked for everyone, or not at all.

Gawczynski considered a Cisco solution, but chose to deploy a SonicWALL® E-Class Network Security Appliance (NSA) E6500 with Content Filtering Service (CFS).

"I chose SonicWALL over Cisco due to the ease-of-use and manageability. It's also really easy to set up and get running on the network," said Gawczynski.

### The solution: next-generation firewall with content filtering

"Implementation was very straightforward," said Gawczynski. "I simply had to enter a list of websites to block."

Crete-Monee School District deployed the E6500 for its content filtering capabilities, a key business objective. SonicWALL CFS combines appliance-based policy enforcement with comprehensive content filtering in a cost-effective, manageable solution. By restricting traffic to suspect and counterproductive sites, the district has freed up bandwidth for legitimate web applications and made it a safer learning environment.

"Students can actually access the websites they are supposed to go to," said Gawczynski. "They can no longer claim they cannot do their homework because the Internet is slow."



## Crete-Monee School District Case Study

*"Before, we had no idea where our bandwidth was going. Now, I can see how students consume hundreds of gigabytes of bandwidth a day on YouTube. We can save money through better bandwidth management."*

– Tom Gawczynski  
Network Administrator  
Crete-Monee School District  
201-U

### SonicWALL Benefits

- Content Filtering
- Intrusion Prevention
- Application Intelligence and Control
- ViewPoint Reporting

Deployable as either a Next-Generation Firewall or Unified Threat Management Firewall, the E6500 scales to the expanding needs of the district with additional features, such as gateway anti-virus, anti-spyware, intrusion prevention as well as application intelligence, control and visualization.

### The result: cost-savings, compliance and ease-of-management

The solution has saved the district from unnecessarily purchasing additional bandwidth.

"Before, we had no idea where our bandwidth was going," said Gawczynski. "Now, I can see how students consume hundreds of gigabytes of bandwidth a day on YouTube. We can save money through better bandwidth management and free up investment for educational resources."

In addition, the solution enables the district to stay CIPA compliant.

"The content filtering and Active Directory integration helps us ensure CIPA compliance by keeping students from unauthorized sites on the Internet," said Gawczynski.

Gawczynski also uses SonicWALL ViewPoint™ to recognize suspicious activity and enhance student productivity by providing summaries of network attacks and reports on user behavior that identify time-wasting and bandwidth-intensive activities.

"The product is phenomenal and the support is out of this world," said Gawczynski.

### The future: remote access and application intelligence and control

Gawczynski is in the preliminary stages of deploying a SonicWALL Secure Remote Access (SRA) 4200 appliance to provide Web Application Firewall functionality. The solution also offers Gawczynski's team Virtual Assist, a remote support tool that enables a district IT technician to assume remote control of a student's or instructor's PC or laptop for troubleshooting purposes.

Looking forward, Gawczynski plans to implement SonicWALL Application Intelligence and Control to gain granular and real-time visualization of applications, guarantee bandwidth prioritization and ensure maximum network security and productivity.

"Instead of just having an on-off switch, application intelligence and control will let me throttle bandwidth to particular applications," said Gawczynski.

### SonicWALL's line-up of dynamic security solutions



NETWORK  
SECURITY



SECURE  
REMOTE ACCESS



WEB AND E-MAIL  
SECURITY



BACKUP  
AND RECOVERY



POLICY AND  
MANAGEMENT

### SonicWALL, Inc.

2001 Logic Drive, San Jose, CA 95124  
T +1 408.745.9600 F +1 408.745.9300  
[www.sonicwall.com](http://www.sonicwall.com)



DYNAMIC SECURITY FOR THE GLOBAL NETWORK™