

Standard School District gives malware a failing grade

District adopts Malwarebytes to block malware and improve endpoint performance

INDUSTRY

Education

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Replace ineffective antivirus solution and add another layer of protection to teacher and staff computers

IT ENVIRONMENT

One data center with firewalls, spam filters, content filters, and BitDefender antivirus

SOLUTION

Malwarebytes Endpoint Security, which includes Anti-Malware, Anti-Exploit, and the Management Console

RESULTS

- Gained comprehensive detection of malware, even when machines appeared symptom-free
- Eliminated need to frequently re-image staff and teacher machines, saving time
- Blocked access to malicious sites, helping prevent new infections

Business profile

The Standard School District, located in Bakersfield, California, has 3,100 students who rely on their Google Chromebooks for classwork and learning resources. However, the district's 200 teachers and administrators use Windows machines, and they were experiencing numerous malware infections until the IT team changed tactics and adopted Malwarebytes Endpoint Security.

With Malwarebytes, I don't have to worry about malware detection, remediation, or protection. We know that protection is consistently deployed across our systems without affecting teacher and staff productivity. It just works.

—Jeff Davis, Director of Technology and Information Systems, Standard School District

Business challenge

Eradicate malware everywhere

Six IT team members support computing and other IT resources across four schools. The vast majority of computers are for student use. They do not have email accounts associated with them, which dramatically reduces maintenance. They also can be restored to a consistent image each night, keeping them free from potential malware and virus infections. However, the Windows machines used by teachers and staff were highly vulnerable to malware.

"We were finding Trojan downloaders, adware, and keystroke loggers on teacher and staff Internet browsers," said Jeff Davis, Director of Technology and Information Systems at Standard School District. "It was frustrating that our BitDefender antivirus solution was not catching the malware. Even when machines didn't show any symptoms, if we scanned the machine with Malwarebytes we almost always found a sizeable amount of malware."

When a machine became infected to the point where performance slowed, the IT team had to travel to the machine location and



re-image it. Re-imaging took at least an hour per machine and consumed a lot of valuable IT staff time. And not only did BitDefender lack good detection and mitigation capabilities, it was a performance drain, noted Davis. Computers were always slow after IT deployed it.

The solution

Malwarebytes Endpoint Security

The district's IT technicians had used Malwarebytes to remediate systems and had great success with it. As the fight against malware intensified, they specifically requested Malwarebytes to replace the BitDefender software.

"We evaluated our options and decided that Malwarebytes was the most effective solution for us," said Davis. "We bought 475 licenses of Malwarebytes Endpoint Security for its combined anti-malware and anti-exploit capabilities."

Malwarebytes Endpoint Security provides a powerful multi-layered defense engineered to defeat the latest, most dangerous malware, including ransomware. It includes Malwarebytes Anti-Malware, Anti-Exploit, and the Management Console in one comprehensive solution. Davis and his team deployed Malwarebytes in less than two weeks and the rollout went significantly better than the district's BitDefender rollout had been.

"We found much more malware on machines than I expected," said Davis. "Malwarebytes detects a comprehensive range of malware and works much better."

Saves times, delivers insight

The IT team uses the Management Console for a range of tasks. It takes just a few minutes to push software out to all client endpoints. Davis also likes the reporting

capabilities. So far the team has only scratched the surface of management features, but they can easily see what Malwarebytes has detected and update machines and servers as needed. The team plans to create a scanning schedule so that the software regularly inspects machines and remediates anything it finds.

"The Malwarebytes support team also has been great," said Davis. "They quickly got us an update that we needed and walked us through the rollout."

Fast and effective





Davis noticed right away that the computers perform much faster when they use Malwarebytes instead of their previous antivirus software. Malwarebytes is lightweight and enables the district to run updates or scans with users hardly noticing a difference.

Malwarebytes Anti-Exploit monitors malware processes and provides better blocking than the district's previous BitDefender solution. Malwarebytes already has blocked several exploits, preventing them from downloading payloads on multiple systems. It also blocks access to infected websites, preventing users from accidentally allowing malware to gain a foothold.

"With Malwarebytes, I don't have to worry about malware detection, remediation, or protection," said Davis. "We know that protection is consistently deployed across our systems without affecting teacher and staff productivity. It just works."

| About

Malwarebytes is the next-gen cybersecurity company that millions worldwide trust. Malwarebytes proactively protects people and businesses against dangerous threats such as malware, ransomware, and exploits that escape detection by traditional antivirus solutions. The company's flagship product combines advanced heuristic threat detection with signature-less technologies to detect and stop a cyberattack before damage occurs. More than 10,000 businesses worldwide use, trust, and recommend Malwarebytes. Founded in 2008, the company is headquartered in California, with offices in Europe and Asia, and a global team of threat researchers and security experts.

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