

Reavis High School expels ransomware

Malwarebytes makes malware protection simple for Macs and PCs

INDUSTRY

Education

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Gain modern protection against ransomware and malware

IT ENVIRONMENT

iboss web gateway, Securly on Chromebooks

SOLUTION


Malwarebytes Endpoint Security, Malwarebytes Anti-Malware for Mac

RESULTS

- Stopped ransomware from reaching students' and teachers' computers
- Greatly reduced malware-related incidents and machine reimaging
- Gained visibility into endpoints to enable proactive response if necessary
- Saved valuable IT staff time with email alerts

Business profile

Students at Reavis High School are preparing for their futures with a comprehensive academic program, a nationally acclaimed library, fabulous sports facilities, a fine arts center, and now—a 1-to-1 computing experience. With 1800 student machines, as well as faculty, administrative, and lab computers, the school presented a large attack surface for malware and ransomware. Until that is, the school deployed Malwarebytes.



Since we replaced Sophos, we just don't see the problems we used to. We've had no issues with ransomware, and if we do see malware, Malwarebytes takes care of it.

—Pat Kustok, Computer Technician, Reavis High School

Business challenge

Gain modern protection against new cyber challenges

When Pat Kustok, the school's Computer Technician, arrived at Reavis, viruses and malware were a continuous problem. The Sophos antivirus that had been installed in prior years hadn't been updated frequently enough, and more severe threats were getting through. Potentially Unwanted Programs (PUPs) were rampant, and other types of malware enticed users to click to malicious sites. Kustok's team even had to stop a Cryptolocker attack that locked teachers' files on their computers and on their map network drive. They typically reimaged several teachers' machines per month, and they had to clean or reimage several student machines every day.

“With 2,000 devices to manage, not to mention servers and networks, reimaging machines took a huge chunk of valuable time out of our day,” said Kustok. “We needed a better solution—one that not only worked, but that also made our jobs easier. The school challenged me to find something that we liked.”

The school's network specialists had previous experience with Malwarebytes, and Kustok had extensive experience with Viper antivirus. The team's requirements were quality protection,



ease of use, and the ability to monitor machines. They conducted a trial with Viper, but the solution delivered dozens of false positive alerts, especially with machines running Windows 10. The team decided that Viper wasn't right for the school.

The solution

Malwarebytes Endpoint Security and Malwarebytes Anti-Malware for Mac

Next, the Reavis team had a demo of Malwarebytes and also conducted a trial. After another demo and executive review, Reavis chose Malwarebytes Endpoint Security for its Windows-based machines and Malwarebytes Anti-Malware for Mac to protect the machines in its Apple labs.

"The folks at Malwarebytes were extremely helpful," said Kustok. "They were always available when I needed them and responded quickly. When we deployed the Malwarebytes for Mac, they gave us a short demo of how to do it and we were off and running. They were just great."

While students were on summer vacation, the Reavis team reimaged all student computers, adding Malwarebytes to completely replace the Sophos antivirus. Teachers' computers are reimaged when they return to class in the fall. Using the Malwarebytes Management Console, Kustok pushed updates and the Malwarebytes software to the machines over the school network. It was simple.

Loving the ease of use

"It's extremely simple to install, configure, and scan machines," said Kustok. "The Management Console is clean and organized. I can see exactly where everything is—quickly."

The rest of Kustok's team also uses the Management Console, and they thought it was much easier to use than

other solutions they'd tried. They don't have to look in multiple screens or locations to troubleshoot a machine or see threats.

Appreciating high protection quality

Reavis users and staff no longer experience the malware-related problems that they did in the past. Malwarebytes blocks malicious websites, cleans up malware on its own, and notifies Kustok when malware appears. Now the team has a head start on resolving a malware issue if it occurs without waiting for users to report that they are having computer problems.

"Since we replaced Sophos, we just don't see the problems we used to," said Kustok. "We've had no issues with ransomware, and even if we do see malware, Malwarebytes takes care of it automatically."

Staying informed without disruption

With his team focused on all of the school's IT needs, Kustok appreciates every opportunity to save time or simplify processes. Now when Malwarebytes scans a machine, it sends the results right to Kustok's email. He or his team members don't have to stop what they're working on, go to the Management Console, and pull up results. If a teacher's machine gets malware, he knows immediately.


"The reporting is huge to us," said Kustok. "It makes our job a lot easier because we don't have to go and constantly check things. If an issue arises, we know right away. Otherwise, we can safely assume that everything is okay."


As students and teachers focus on learning and teaching, they don't have to worry about malware getting in the way. With Malwarebytes, they're already experiencing a malware-free future.


| 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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