

“Had we not had a restricted internet service like Mobicip, I wouldn’t have allowed them (iPod’s) in the (class)room as a tool, ...and plus they couldn’t have taken them home.”

Ann Jeanette Patton
ELL Teacher, Comal ISD



Problem

Comal Independent School District in New Braunfels, Texas had identified a subset of the student population as English Language Learners (ELL). The district launched an ELL program for these students, as part of which each student was provided an iPod Touch. Given that the iPod Touch is an internet-enabled powerful computing device, the school had to overcome several challenges before they could deploy the solution.

CIPA Compliance

The school district had to ensure that the devices complied with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA), a federal mandate that requires schools to restrict and monitor Internet access.

Parental Consent

Parents had to agree to allow their students to participate in the iPod Touch initiative. When the school organized a meeting to discuss the project, the chief concern was open Internet access.

Remote Administration

The technology coordinator for the project should be able to monitor the Internet activity and ensure that the ELL students comply with the school’s Acceptable Use Policy (AUP).

Always On Protection

Internet protection should be always on, whether the student is using the device at school, home or the local coffee shop or library.

Performance

The filtering should not compromise the browsing experience, even while ensuring Internet safety.

Cost

Since this is a limited deployment, budget is a constraint and the solution should be affordable.

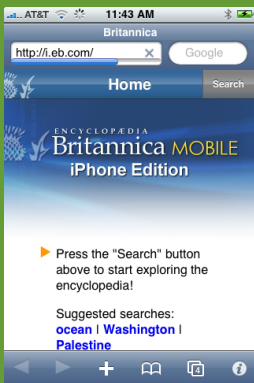
Solution

Comal ISD decided to deploy Mobicip’s Safe Browser app as the window to the Internet on the iPod Touch. The Safe Browser app offers a safe, secure and educational Internet environment for school-age children. Safari Mobile, the default browser was disabled and replaced by the Safe Browser app. Mobicip’s browser

About Mobicip.com

Mobicip is a web filtering and parental control software as a service (SaaS) designed expressly to work with portable Internet devices. The high-quality filtering is comparable or better than most enterprise filtering solutions, and the service is completely hosted and managed on the cloud.

Launched in Feb 2009, the Mobicip Safe Browser app is the most popular parental control app on the Apple iTunes App Store.



The service protects children using devices like the iPhone and iPod Touch anytime anywhere, in-school, at home or in the library.

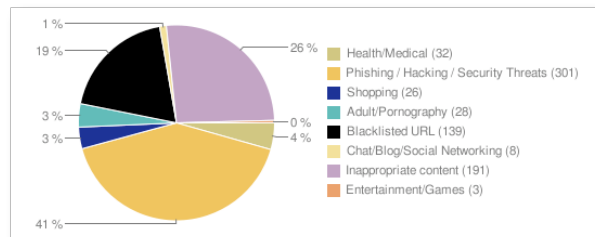
Learn more about Mobicip at www.mobicip.com.

Mobicip.com
 501-I, South Reino Rd.
 Ste 212
 Newbury Park CA 91320
 805 380 5687
edu@mobicip.com
www.mobicip.com

replicates the functionality of Safari Mobile including popular rich UI elements like pinch and zoom, multi-touch, bookmarks, history etc. This makes the browsing experience just as easy and quick for the students, while ensuring that they cannot access any inappropriate content even accidentally.

The Safe Browser app is managed using Mobicip's remote administration interface called the Web Monitor. The Web Monitor is a browser-based web2.0

application that allows the school administration to customize the filtering settings exactly the way they want. In addition, it shows them logs of Internet browsing



history for each of the ELL students. The reporting allows the administration to enforce the school's AUP. Whats more, the entire solution works anytime, anywhere no matter where the student is accessing the Internet from. Other than the time to setup, there was no upfront cost to the school in purchasing any hardware or equipment.

Outcome

Jennifer Wivagg, the technology coordinator at Comal ISD and program lead, presented the solution to parents. According to Jennifer, "Presenting Mobicip and the protection it offers was instrumental to parents and the teachers approving the project." To the students, Mobicip is synonymous with the Internet and they find the browser functionality just as rich as the Safari Mobile browser. "Mobicip fills a critical need for us. Students still have access to the Internet on any WiFi network and teachers and parents can feel confident that they are not accessing inappropriate sites.", says Jennifer.

What is more, teachers have come up with innovative ways to integrate Internet research into the learning experience. One of the teachers assigns a list of vocabulary words to the students. The students must find a picture on the Internet (using Mobicip's Safe Browser app) that represents the vocabulary word in some way. The student then uses another application to create a comic panel that represents their assigned vocabulary words.



Comal ISD has found Mobicip's solution to be effective, affordable and instrumental in enforcing CIPA compliance and implementing a managed one to one learning program using the iPod Touch, while allowing teachers to find innovative educational uses for safe and secure Internet access.