



Case Study: How Huron Unified IT, Teachers, and Parents to Protect Students Online

Meet Huron School District

The Huron community in Wayne County, Michigan provides students with outstanding educational opportunities, making Huron School District a preferred choice in the Downriver Region.

Huron School District recognizes that in a 1:1 device landscape, technology is more than a tool — it’s a gateway to innovation.

The district’s Technology Department is committed to empowering students to learn and grow in the digital world, while protecting them from evolving online risks.

“I told every district in our consortium: look at Linewize before you commit to anything else. And then it ended up going from our county to the state.”

Donna Zick,
Director of Technology

District:
Huron School District

Enrollment:
2,600+

Schools:
1 Early Childhood Center
2 Elementary
1 Junior High
1 High

1:1 Program:
Grades 1-12: Chromebooks

Linewize Solutions:
Linewize Filter
Classwize
Linewize Monitor
Qustodio Parent App





The challenge: Outdated tools created IT bottlenecks, and limited visibility into student safety

Frequent unblock requests drained IT and teacher time

Because teachers had different preferences on which websites should be allowed in their classes, the IT team fielded frequent requests to block and unblock content.

This placed strain on the tech department, eating into both instructional time and IT resource hours.

Inconsistent filtering for on and off-campus devices

As the district rolled out its 1:1 program, they needed to protect student devices beyond school walls.

Unmanaged devices on the network had the potential to bypass the district's filtering policies, especially if students weren't signed into their accounts.

"The kids are always trying to get around the filter and we're constantly trying to stay ahead of them without restricting access for our staff."

Donna Zick,
Director of Technology

'False positive' safety alerts required manual IT oversight and created alert fatigue

With Huron's prior safety system, searches for academic topics like "Boston Massacre" sometimes triggered the same alerts as actual safety risks.

This led to a flood of false positives.

To ensure no vulnerable student was missed, the IT team manually reviewed every notification for context — taking up valuable time and delaying support for students in need.

Lack of digital visibility for staff and parents

With limited reporting, it was difficult for Huron's faculty and staff to gauge what students were doing online, identify patterns of concern, and take preventative action

Parents also expressed frustration over the lack of visibility into their children's online activity, with school-issued devices being sent home.





The solution: A unified ecosystem for student digital safety

Huron selected Linewize for its all-in-one platform, consolidating fragmented tools into a single partner and resulting in measurable cost savings.

“When I got the quote for Linewize compared to the other product, it was nearly one-third of what the other product was,” says Zick.

- **Linewize Filter** for content-aware, hybrid filtering for devices on and off-campus
- **Classwize** for user-friendly classroom management that allows teachers to control what’s blocked in class
- **Linewize Monitor** for real-time safety alerts with 24/7 human moderation
- **Qustodio Parent App** for parental visibility and control over student devices outside of school hours

The outcome: A proactive student safety culture, and streamlined operations for IT and teachers

Teachers have control in the classroom, without overburdening IT

Classwize allows Huron’s teachers to control what students can access during class in real time.

The IT department can give teachers the ability to block and allow sites in their own classrooms — without impacting district-wide filter policies.

Zick now guides teachers on how to resolve unblock requests themselves. Those who want to restrict content can do so easily, while others can give their students more freedom.

As a result, the IT team has seen a steady decline in the number of requests to block or unblock sites.

Trusted safety alerts, without the clutter of false positives

Linewize Monitor has been an invaluable student safety tool, helping Huron “cut through the noise” and significantly reduce false positives.

Zick notes that Monitor has been particularly helpful in catching student behaviors that don’t fall under the definition of things a school filter would block, but do indicate a risk or a need for support.

“With Monitor, I know when I get an alert I need to look at it because it’s serious.”

Donna Zick,
Director of Technology



“There’s a human component behind it, and you can definitely tell with the alerts that we get,” Zick says.

“We’re able to track and see not only the screenshots of what they were looking at, but also what else they were doing around that time to get the context of everything.”

Parents can easily supervise screen time with Qustodio

The Qustodio Parent App has created a bridge between school and home.

Parents can supervise their child’s screen time at home and pause the internet on school Chromebooks, a feature that Zick notes is particularly useful during the summer months.

This transparency has also improved teacher-parent communication. “If the parent doesn’t have Qustodio set up yet,” Zick adds, “the teacher can easily share a Student Journey report from Classwize to provide a clear picture of their child’s digital activity.”

“We’ve been using the product for four years and support has always been great - they are always quick to help me figure things out.”

Donna Zick,
Director of Technology

Digestible reports provide a complete picture of student behavior

Huron can easily give IT, administrators, teachers, and parents the information they need with Linewize reports.

For instance, if a teacher inquiry originates from a Classwize report, or a search flagged by Monitor, Zick can use Linewize Filter to generate a deeper search into a student’s historical activity.

This interconnected data ensures that whether it’s for a behavioral incident, mental health concern, or digital safety matter, Huron’s staff has the insights they need to support the whole student.



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About Linewize

Linewize empowers K-12 IT teams and educators with the world’s most comprehensive suite of child cyber safety and wellbeing solutions, including hybrid web filtering, classroom management, and student threat detection.