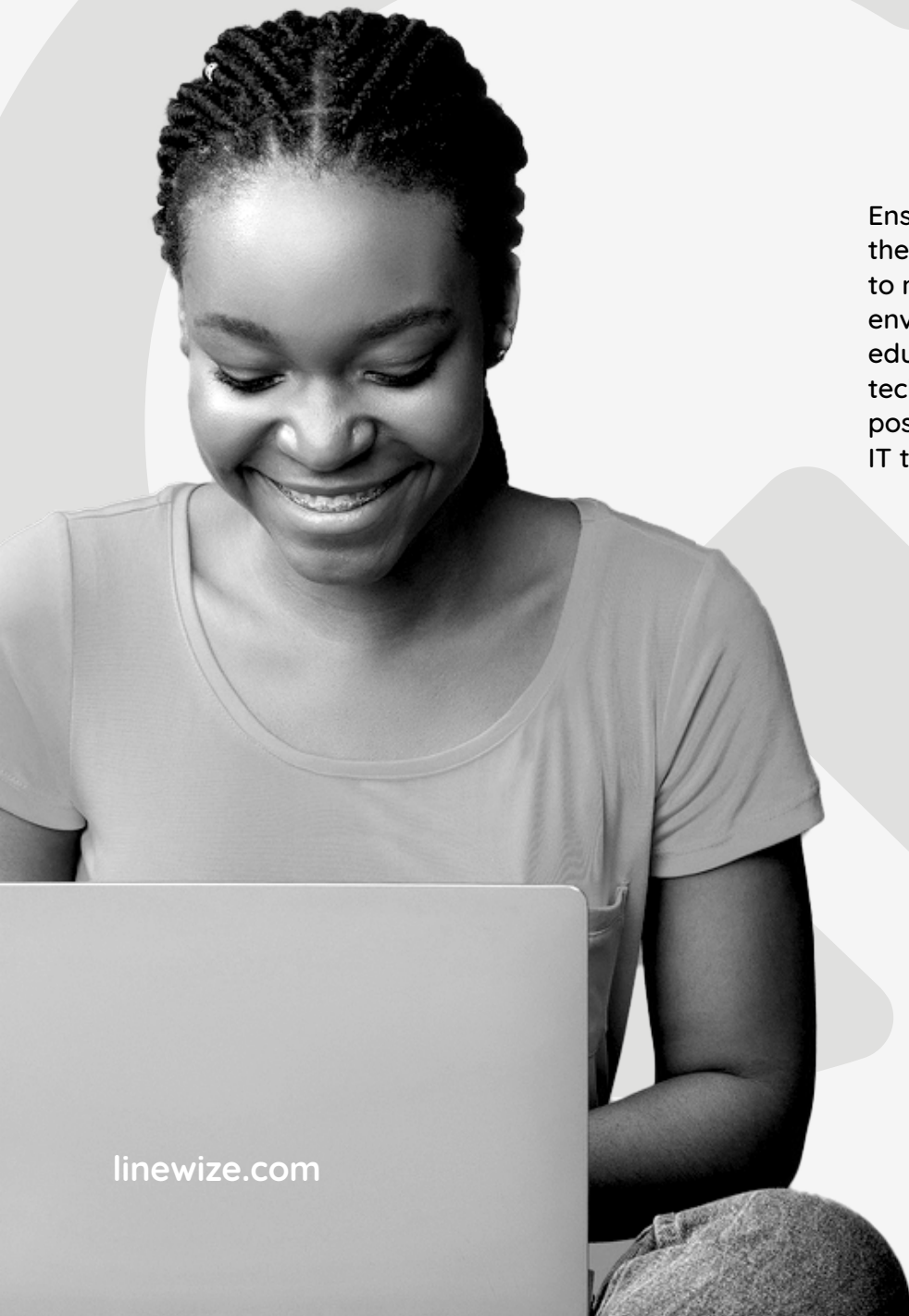




# 5 Indicators Your Filter Needs Updating



Ensuring that your filter provides the critical safeguards required to maintain a secure digital environment, and also flexibility for educators, is crucial. New filtering technologies make this balance possible—and even simple—for your IT team to manage.

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If you're struggling with any of these five issues, you may be missing out on valuable technology. Learn how you can help your resource-strained team provide not only necessary web filtering compliance, but also a robust ecosystem of student safety for your district.

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## Indicator #1

### Teachers frequently contact IT to override blocked content

Teachers rely heavily on technology when teaching, and need flexibility and control over their curriculum. Unfortunately, many Internet filters operate with a top-down permissions process that isn't sustainable (or flexible).

For instance, if a teacher has created a multimedia lesson plan that includes educational videos and games, they might discover that portions of their immersive lesson plan are blocked by the school's existing filter — despite their curriculum being CIPA compliant. As a result, the teacher would need to request an override to access that specific content. This puts an additional workload on network admins and can discourage teachers.

To create a balance between education staff and IT teams, network admins need to be confident they can maintain compliance at a high level while still giving teachers enough autonomy. Integrating a seamless classroom management tool, like Classwize, that works with your filter allows access to content that may normally be blocked for the purpose of individual lessons. When this happens, everyone can do what they do best, maintain control over their respective responsibilities, and work together effectively.

## Indicator #2


### Your current filtering solution can be bypassed with VPNs & proxies

Twenty years ago, filtering technology was pretty straightforward. This is no longer the case.

Tech-savvy students can easily bypass seemingly ironclad filters using virtual private networks (VPNs), proxies, and various anonymizer sites. A standard proxy allows students to browse freely on the web without changing the address bar URL. While network administrators might thoroughly understand how these bypassers work, many teachers do not.

Having a filtering solution that can quickly identify both standard and complex filter-bypassing tricks ensures students stay focused and compliant on your school devices. Reporting capabilities are also crucial for understanding how VPNs impact your infrastructure and compliance.

With hybrid web filters like School Manager, you can easily create filtered reports that pinpoint what users attempt to access VPNs, when the access attempt occurred, what VPN was visited, and whether the attempt was successful — across any time range. This allows you to quickly identify “repeat offenders” or discover new VPN sites on the market.



“Twenty years ago, filtering technology was pretty straightforward. This is no longer the case.”

## Indicator #3

### Difficulty leveraging your solution’s data to improve EdTech efforts

As the saying goes, “data is king” and in the modern education landscape, this is especially true. If your existing web filtering solution doesn’t provide enough insight to glean patterns within your district, your ability to make data-backed decisions is compromised.

A smart, CIPA-compliant solution provides detailed information about the digital content your students consume, what web pages they stay on the longest, how often students attempt to bypass filters, how often flagged activity occurs, and much more.

You can use this information to make safe, healthy policy and protocol adjustments.



## Indicator #4

### Staff struggle to manage cyberbullying

According to the [Cyberbullying Research Center](#), cyberbullying continues to rise among youth in the U.S. Recognizing and managing it is imperative. If you've noticed reports of bullying are increasing or not improving in your district, you may need to expand your safety and prevention ecosystem to include early detection and intervention capabilities.

A filtering solution that allows you to grow and expand screen monitoring and safety intervention will help you to spot at-risk students and ensure timely intervention. [Linewize Monitor](#), part of the Linewize solution suite, captures device input data and full-path browsing activity in any app or document, whether the school-issued device is online or offline. This way, activity can be assessed holistically and with context in mind. Ultimately, this reduces the amount of false positives and provides a full picture of activity and intent.

## Indicator #5

### Dissonance between school and parent community

Parents want to know that their children are safe, both at school and offsite. Frequent inquiries and complaints from parents are a tell-tale sign of a communication gap between administration, teachers, counselors, parents, and the community. Partnering with a trusted student safety platform provider that offers parent resources can help you ensure student safety across their entire digital journey.

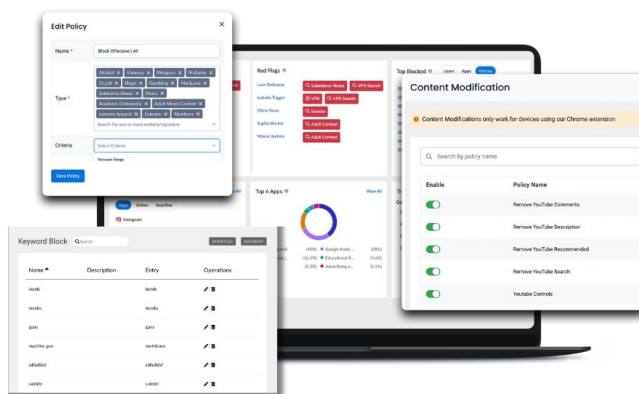
Linewize [Community](#) addresses this dissonance with a variety of useful resources. Through the Linewize Community program, parents can access online safety education materials and information tailored to their district. Additionally, the [Qustodio parent app](#) gives parents greater insight into their child's online activity on school-issued and personal devices.

# Moving to a Student Safety Ecosystem

If your web filter isn't providing the foundation for a robust student safety ecosystem, you are likely spending extra dollars and IT resources maintaining an antiquated and piecemealed solution.

Schedule a quick consultation with our safety experts to learn how our student safety platform can help you check all the web filtering boxes and scale to meet your district's growing needs.

**Book a demo at:**  
[www.linewize.com/demo](https://www.linewize.com/demo)





Linewize is the leading provider of digital safeguarding solutions in the U.S. For more information, visit our website or get in touch with our team of experts.

**Web:** [www.linewize.com](http://www.linewize.com)

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**Email:** [sales@linewize.com](mailto:sales@linewize.com)



Linewize is part of Qoria, a global technology company, dedicated to keeping children safe and well in their digital lives. We harness the power of connection to close the gaps that children fall through, and to seamlessly support them on all sides - at school, at home and everywhere in between.

Find out more  
[www.qoria.com](http://www.qoria.com)