



Cell Phones in School Does Tethering Affect Your AUP?



Every K12 school district has an Internet Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) which is effectively a set of rules that restrict the ways in which the school network can be used by students and staff while at school. The school district has deployed firewalls, content filtering, and other solutions to protect the network from the bad guys and restrict users from accessing Internet content unsuitable for K12.

At school students and staff might choose to tether their personal WiFi devices like 3 or 4G cell phones. Tethering allows users to completely bypass all security devices the school district has deployed. In other words, users who tether are "not" on the school network yet they are physically at school. This raises many questions with respect to AUPs.

School districts need to be aware of tethering capability. With BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) becoming very popular, each district will need to consider how to handle tethering in their AUP.

Tethering Example

