Meraki

EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Embrace Change: 4 Ways to Prepare for What's Next

Change has seemed like the only constant in recent months.

Organizations large and small have been meeting the demand for hybrid work and learning environments, omnichannel delivery of goods and services, and a seemingly constant flurry of financial curveballs. These challenges have highlighted, like never before, the need for an agile infrastructure and a culture ready to embrace change.

For many IT leaders, the foundation for agility resides in the cloud. Moving processes, applications, security, and other functions into public, private, or hybrid clouds not only extends access to dispersed teams but also provides flexibility and dexterity to IT, allowing you to quickly do more with less from decentralized locations.

As the move to cloud continues and you're tasked to do more with the same budget, how can your team drive and support the changes needed to enable the digital workplace of today and the future?

A foundation for agility

The move to a digital workplace requires your organization's technology infrastructure to have a robust, secure, and strong foundation. Whatever your institution's size, you are most likely searching for ways to minimize the time you spend on the mundane and maximize resources spent on digital innovation, like new services, products, and capabilities.

With a cloud-based network platform, your organization will have the agility needed to take on this evolution.

Keep your campus securely connected

Making sure secure Wi-Fi is available to students, faculty, and staff is an important, but often time-consuming, part of your job, and nowhere on campus is this more important than in dorms.

After all, 96% of students rank access to Wi-Fi as the most important element for studying, and while 50% of students use two devices—a laptop and smartphone—more than one-third have three or more devices, a recent survey from EDUCAUSE found[1].

That could mean more strain on your Wi-Fi network, its bandwidth and security, and your team.

1 EDUCAUSE, "2020 Student Technology Report"

See how the ABCs of agility can reduce Wi-Fi headaches in higher education.

Automation allows IT teams to dramatically cut 95% of time spent manually performing network changes[2], And with time freed up, your team can stay ahead of student needs.

For example, during exam periods or registration when Wi-Fi traffic may increase, you can deliver more capacity, as required.

A **broad ecosystem** of partners enables you to quickly meet your need for new services by allowing your team to scale without requiring internal resources.

These vetted experts can help deliver applications that allow students to easily and securely enroll and manage their devices on your network even before they step on campus.

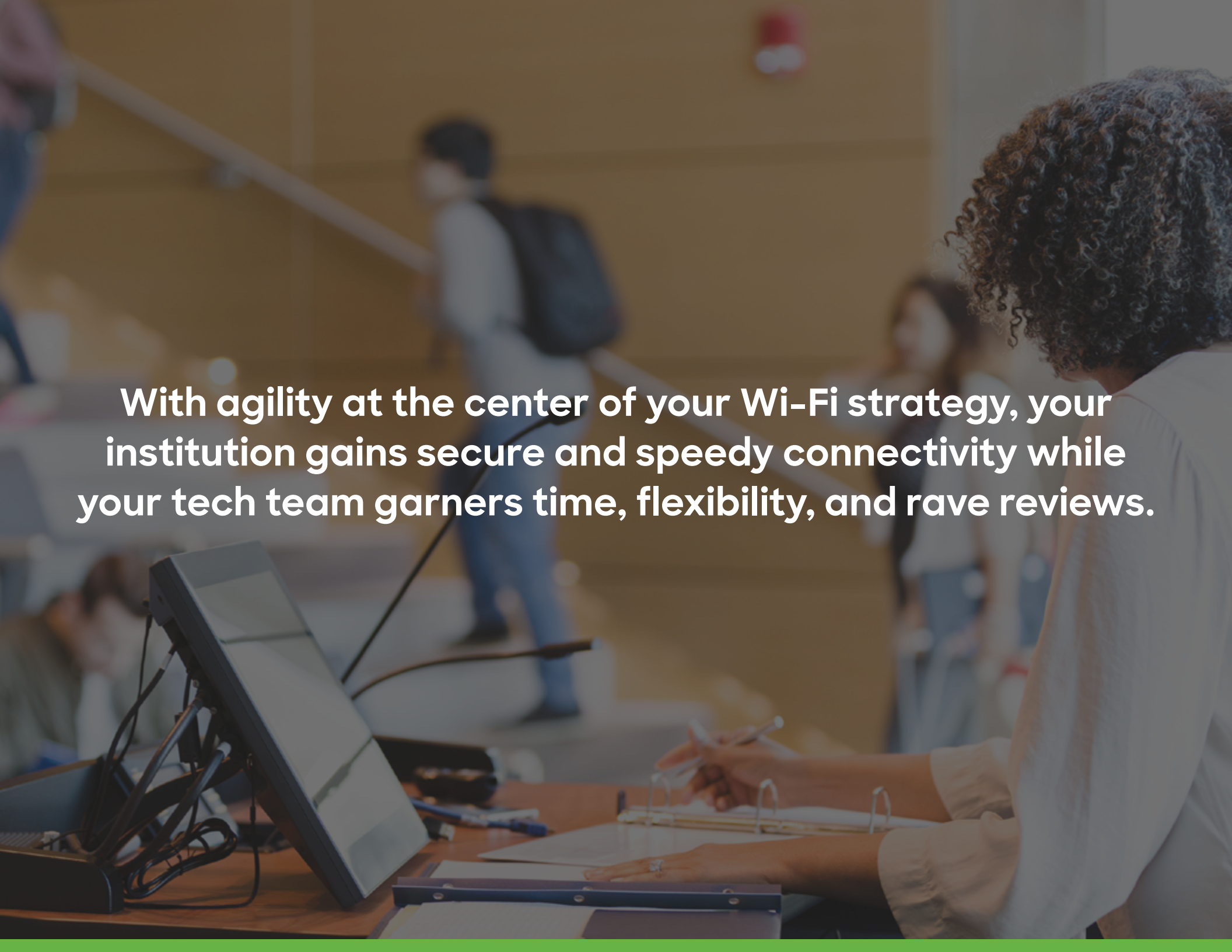
2 Gartner, "What's Changed: Gartner's 2017 Magic Quadrant for Wired and Wireless LAN Access Infrastructure"

Configuration is secure and replicable, with monitoring conducted via a single pane of glass.

Whether your institution just built a new dorm or a satellite campus must conduct classes virtually, your team can quickly establish secure connectivity and provide the same experience as everywhere else on campus.

Data analytics allow you to proactively see usage patterns that may unveil opportunities or highlight potential problems.

For example, leverage data from your network to understand movement and density patterns of students in dorms to make sure they are adhering to social distancing guidelines.


With agility at the center of your Wi-Fi strategy, your institution gains secure and speedy connectivity while your tech team garners time, flexibility, and rave reviews.

Learn more about connecting your campus with a cloud-first platform.

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