



Customized LENS installation from Eastern DataComm helped Berkeley Heights School District in New Jersey address unique safety requirements.

Berkeley Heights (NJ) Public Schools

In 2019, Berkeley Heights School District took steps to strengthen school safety by installing cutting-edge emergency notification systems from Eastern DataComm in each school building.

The Challenge

A District with an Exemplary Reputation and Unique Needs

Berkeley Heights Public School District is consistently rated as one of the best school systems in New Jersey. The high school is well known throughout the region for its award-winning inclusive education program for deaf, hard-of-hearing, and cognitively impaired students.

Eastern DataComm understood the necessity for notifications to be provided in a variety of forms to ensure all students, faculty, and staff remained safe and informed during emergency situations.

The district wanted solutions that integrated with their Google cloud-based systems and gave them the highest level of communication with their local police department.



How Berkeley Heights School District Officials Describe the Experience

“We have one of the few programs in the state for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. They can’t hear the klaxons or the public address notifications you have with most notification systems. So, Eastern DataComm installed an enhanced system at the high school with additional digital signage and strobe lights in those classrooms and in other areas like the cafeteria and music room where it can be difficult to hear. Those extra signs and strobes make our emergency communications much more effective and efficient.”

-Mike Skara, Technology Coordinator, Berkeley Heights Schools

An Eastern DataComm Success Story:

Berkeley Heights School District

Berkeley Heights, NJ

Schools: 6

Students: 2,559

Teachers: 220

Challenges



The deaf, hard-of-hearing, and cognitively impaired student population required multimodal security and notification systems for equity and efficiency



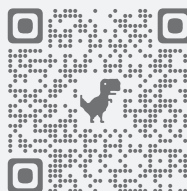
Aging telecommunication system needed to be updated and integrated across rooms and buildings



Need for integration with existing Google cloud-based systems



Need for more efficient emergency communication with the local police department



To read the additional details of this case study, scan this QR Code.



"Thankfully, we've only had to use it once in a real situation ... and it worked perfectly. Everyone was notified and the system worked exactly as it was supposed to."

-Mike Skara, Technology Coordinator, Berkeley Heights Schools

The Eastern DataComm Solution

Utilizing A Proven Emergency Notification Technology Solution

Eastern DataComm's Lockdown and Emergency Notification System (LENS) is a fully automated comprehensive solution that integrates telephone systems, public address systems, wireless speakers, strobe lights, and LED signage. LENS delivers nearly instantaneous emergency notifications.

LENS can be activated from any phone in a school building or office or by buttons installed in the main offices of each school building. Once activated, the system will initiate lockdown, evacuation, or shelter-in-place procedures within seconds. It is a trusted solution that Eastern DataComm has implemented in hundreds of K-12 schools and municipalities.

A Solution Tailored To The District's Unique Needs

Customizable features offered the district a way to address some unique safety challenges. As one of the few programs in the state designed for deaf and hard-of-hearing students, some audible notifications wouldn't serve all the district's students adequately.

The enhanced system that Eastern DataComm provided included digital signage and strobe lights so every student could benefit from efficient, equitable, and effective communication.

An Understanding Of Communications Infrastructure

Eastern DataComm has been maintaining the district's Mitel phone system for nearly a decade. That said, the team was deeply familiar with the communications infrastructure at Berkeley Heights.

Eastern DataComm further customized the system to integrate with the district's Google G Suite cloud-based tools, providing new avenues for delivering emergency notifications by phone, text, and email. With this system, notifications could also be designated for distinct audiences in different buildings.

Police Communication Support

Once activated, LENS's integration with the local police department's communications system enables near instantaneous calls to 911, the police, and emergency responders. Eastern DataComm also sought guidance from the Berkeley Heights Police Department on the design and implementation for better integration.

Solution at-a-Glance

Eastern DataComm created a streamlined way to address Berkeley Heights School District's concerns including:



Customized features ensure all students benefit from the Lockdown and Emergency Notification System (LENS)



Upgraded phone system integrated with the district's Google G Suite for improved classroom collaboration and emergency notification



LENS Integration with the local police department's communications system for added security and support



District-wide phone and intercom system for more efficient communication



Pre-recorded emergency announcements, visuals, and LED signs and beacons



Simultaneous calls to 911 and police, with lockdowns and shelter-in-place notifications occurring within seconds of LENS activation



Address Your Communication and Safety Challenges with Eastern DataComm

If your district is encountering challenges like the ones that Berkeley Heights School District faced, contact Eastern DataComm for a complimentary School Safety Consultation.

Eastern DataComm

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