Eastern DataComm Assists A Burlington County High School District With Upgrading Its Phone System And Implementing Cutting Edge Lockdown And Emergency Notification System To Increase School Safety

Administrators at a large Burlington County, NJ, high school district wanted to upgrade their phone system while further enhancing the way they respond to emergencies.

After a thorough diagnostic consultation, the district embarked on enhancing each of these areas with the help of Eastern DataComm.

The Eastern DataComm Solution

During their consultation with Eastern DataComm, the district's administrators shared their vision for increased communication and school security. Eastern DataComm introduced potential enhancements to address each area of that vision with a customized technology solution that met the needs and goals of the district.

Upgrading the Phone System

Eastern DataComm implemented a new multi-line phone system that integrated with the district's emergency notification system and enriched the way the school met federal compliance requirements related to emergency communication.

Enhancing the Existing PA System

Eastern DataComm upgraded head-end devices in all schools and additional speakers were added to ensure comprehensive communication capabilities. The system also enabled announcements related to lockdowns for increased clarity both indoors and outside during emergencies.
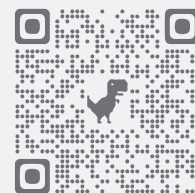
Implementing an Integrated Lockdown and Emergency Notification System for District-Wide Safety and Security

Eastern DataComm collaborated with the district to implement our Lockdown and Emergency Notification System (LENS) and integrate the system with the new phone and PA system. LENS provides a fully automated emergency alert system that can be activated at the push of a button or from any office by dialing a code on a phone or on a cellular phone using an app. The system also provides for:
- Automated, simultaneous calls to 911 and local police, system-wide paging, and announcements indoors and outdoors, LED signboards, beacons, wireless speakers, and pre-recorded announcements
- Efficient communication with law enforcement and emergency responders

An Eastern DataComm Success Story:

Schools:
4 High Schools, 1 Alternative Program
Students:
6,891
Teachers:
580

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

More Feedback from the Burlington County School District Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator:

Areas of Greatest Improvement to Augment the School Safety Profile

"I think the biggest, most important effect that this has is the ability to place the school into lockdown very quickly. Teachers have the ability right from their classrooms... The new push-button lockdown initiation has given way to even faster response times. And the faster the school enters lockdown, the more potential there is to mitigate damage and save lives.

So, it is extremely, extremely relevant and important that the faster that we have the ability to put the school on lockdown, the more lives that we could be saving.

If everybody can lock down before that perpetrator gets into the hallway, and the hallways are clear, that person's going to be going down the hallway, looking for kids … and we're locked down. The district can now clear its hallways within 10 seconds, making the school more secure thanks to this new mindset and the technology implemented by the Eastern DataComm team."

A Shift in Mindset

With the new system in place, students understand that drills are conducted to ensure their safety and, since they do a security drill in addition to their usual fire drills each month, the process is now routine.

"With our drills, we're locked down, basically clearing the halls within 10 seconds … And the more quickly we secure the buildings, that's more lives that we're going to save."

Solution at-a-Glance

A brand new multi-line phone system that not only complied with the latest federal regulations but made communication easier and more effective

An upgraded PA system with a comprehensive, district-wide reach both indoors and outside on school grounds

Comprehensive Lockdown and Emergency Notification System (LENS) for school and district-wide emergency communication

The addition of wireless speaker horns in remote ballfields and parking lots

Pre-recorded emergency announcements and LED signs and beacons

Simultaneous calls to 911 and police

Near-instantaneous lockdowns, shelter-in-place, and evacuations

Address Your Communication and Security Challenges with Eastern DataComm

If your district is encountering challenges like the ones this Burlington County, New Jersey district faced, contact Eastern DataComm for a complimentary School Safety Consultation.