HOW MAP-BASED INTEGRATIONS CAN HELP NAVIGATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN SCHOOLS

Education case
NY K-12 Schools
In the face of increased violence in schools around the U.S., one Northeast school district made a plan to upgrade their video management system to proactively tighten security. With its ability to enact quick response using mobile and map-based functions during an event, Milestone’s surveillance system was the top-of-class choice.

**Challenge:**
**Help keep kids safe**

For schools around the United States, increased violent crime and active shooter situations have brought a sharp focus on safety, and polls show the growing fears among American parents. In response, a Northeast school district planned an upgrade for their access control system and the deployment of new video security technology.

To ensure the safety of staff, students and the community as a whole, the district safety committee took a careful approach to school security by insisting that the upgrade team work closely with local emergency responders, including police, fire departments and local homeland security officials. It was decided early on that responding officers should be able to access the district’s video from their squad cars and remote devices, in addition to the central dispatch office.

Because Milestone software enables integrations with countless third-party vendors, the XProtect video management software (VMS) was the logical choice to set the new course.
Solution: Mapping security breaches

- Milestone XProtect Expert VMS and Smart Client
- Remote access and monitoring with Milestone Mobile
- Entrance access control from LenselS2 Security
- Network cameras from Axis Communications and MOBOTIX
- Consulting and implementation by Digital Surveillance Solutions (DSS)

Milestone XProtect Expert is at the core of the surveillance system, controlling user access, camera and recording settings, viewing, searching, archiving and evidence sharing. The advanced mapping features and remote video access are key to the schools’ requirements for sharing video with authorities. The surveillance solution is also integrated with the video intercom system for 2-way audio and access control at public entrances.

Result: Situational awareness when seconds count

Streaming, real-time video from the cameras is available at the police department, fire department and in mobile police units. In the event of an emergency, a map-based interface in the district’s VMS lets responding officers navigate fast to see campus buildings and click on logically named camera locations to check what is happening.

The seamless integration of the access control system with the Milestone VMS has enabled the schools to easily keep track of any attempted entry by unauthorized people. School administrators can access camera views in their respective buildings, and district official personnel are authorized to see video in all buildings.

In addition to dealing with potential or active external threats, the video security system delivers overall campus visibility and discourages vandalism, student conflicts and after-hours trespassers. A resource officer for the district noted that with the system in place, the incidence of crime dramatically decreased to almost nothing. If things do occur, video evidence is highly valued in criminal or liability investigations.

Conserving operational resources

School facility personnel can access cameras remotely for more logistical uses, like viewing parking lots after a particularly snowy night to determine whether or not the schools should be plowed or closed that day.

Overall, the increased real-time situational awareness has not only contributed to a peace of mind across the community, but recorded video evidence has saved the district a lot of resources in crime investigations and reporting. And that means all stakeholders are able to focus more on the important task of educating the country’s youth.

“Milestone’s open platform makes it easy for us to add new devices and scale the VMS as the district needs. On-site or remotely, the system is easy to use, and we’ve had nothing but positive feedback from the police department. The multi-agency approach has been a key to the schools’ success with this system.”

Michael Blumenson, President, DSS.
Recognize the challenges?

As incidents rise, do you need to enhance school security in your district?

Get in touch with us at milestonesys.com/book-a-demo and let’s talk about what type of solution is right for you.

About Milestone Systems

Milestone Systems is a leading provider of open platform video management software; technology that helps the world see how to ensure safety, protect assets and increase business efficiency. Milestone enables an open platform community that drives collaboration and innovation in the development and use of network video technology, with reliable and scalable solutions that are proven in more than 500,000 installations worldwide. Founded in 1998, Milestone is a stand-alone company in the Canon Group. For more information visit: www.milestonesys.com

About Crime in K-12 School Districts

According to the School Survey on Crime and Safety (SSOCS) data from 2017-2018 showed that 66% of public schools recorded physical attacks or fights without a weapon, and 21% of schools reported at least one serious violent incident. From 2018 through 2020, Statista numbers K-12 shootings increased to circa 115 each year for incidents where guns were brandished, fired, or hit school property.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) also funded creation of a database to track shootings on K-12 school grounds. This research aims to uncover why multiple-victim homicide incidents have been increasing. In 2019 a Federal Data Strategy also began to examine data on school safety. Both efforts can help to better understand the nature and extent of violent crime that occurs in U.S. schools — and ultimately how best to prevent future incidents.