

RAPTOR[®]

TECHNOLOGIES

THE GOLD STANDARD IN SCHOOL SAFETY

CASE STUDY

Robinson ISD Enhances and Expedites SRP & SRM Procedures

Staff and parent community enthusiastically support enhancements

CHALLENGE

David Wrzesinski, Safety and Emergency Management Director for the Robinson Independent School District, is a dedicated school safety champion. With 32 years' experience as an educator, from the classroom to the athletic field to the principal's office to district administration, Wrzesinski has worked steadily for better procedures, better technology, and true accountability in the protection of students and staff.

"I served as principal for several years at our junior high school, and while I did I wanted to amp up the overall level of school safety," Wrzesinski says. "Following some high-profile incidents around the country, there was a lot of discussion among all administrators about what we could do to make schools safer. But as a principal, there's only so much time you can spend researching systems and programs and thinking through all the possible scenarios. There's so much on your plate, and safety is just one concern." Like many districts, Robinson ISD wasn't just interested in preventative safety—keeping potentially dangerous individuals out of school buildings and away from campuses. The district wanted something more, something that would help its staff and students be ready ahead of time and know how to respond both during and after an actual emergency.

ROBINSON (TX) INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



- 2300 students
- 250 teachers
- 5 schools (1 primary, 1 elementary, 1 intermediate, 1 junior high, 1 high school) serving grades PK-12

Robinson ISD serves students in McLennan and Falls counties, Texas, 10 miles southeast of the city of Waco.

SOLUTION

“When I eventually moved on to district-level administration and took this position as safety and emergency director, I was all about playing out the scenarios,” Wrzesinski says. “My mind started working backwards, taking the worst situation I could think of and backing up to see what things were needed to keep the worst from happening.” Is it possible to anticipate every negative situation? Wrzesinski responds straight out: “No, it’s not 100% possible, but you can certainly be prepared and know how to respond in the vast majority of cases.”

“Our district did a really smart thing several years ago when it implemented Raptor® Visitor Management,” says Wrzesinski. The Raptor Visitor Management system scans visitors’ state-issued IDs against the sex offender registries in all 50 states as well as a customized do-not-admit list of flagged individuals, and instantly alerts administrators to potentially threatening intruders. “That product works very well, and we’ve been really satisfied with it. In the spring of 2018, when I began the serious search for an integrated emergency management system, my mind turned to Raptor.” Wrzesinski watched a Raptor emergency management webinar, and what he saw and heard was convincing.

Robinson ISD officials soon watched a demo of the Raptor Emergency Management system, which combines proven school emergency protocols with mobile technology to give districts a single integrated tool for drills, real-time incident management, and efficient parent-student reunification. The system allows designated district staff to conduct drills or initiate an actual emergency from their mobile devices with the touch of a button. In the event of an incident, emergency commanders and designated first responders can access building maps and emergency procedures via the app. Command personnel can see the status and location of every student and staff member in real time. By September 2018, Robinson ISD began implementing the system.

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RESULTS

“We were already familiar with the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) and Standard Reunification Method (SRM) from The ‘I Love U Guys’ Foundation. I had created incident packages for each school, which contained hard copies of procedures, reunification materials, signage, etc. We had been drilling with those for awhile,” Wrzesinski says.

“Our staff had a level of familiarity. One of the beauties of the Raptor® system is that it aligns with the SRP and SRM, so our staff didn’t really have to learn a whole new set of procedures.” Wrzesinski created a video to teach staff members how to use the Raptor Emergency Management mobile app. “I did a big, district-wide presentation for the staff, and then I followed it up by sharing my video with every staff member so they would have the opportunity to watch it and really get it down.”

“The Raptor system and app have transformed everyone’s attitude toward safety drills,” Wrzesinski insists. “When I go out to the campuses and observe, every staff member is completely engaged and focused. Back in the days of ringing a bell, walking everyone outside, and timing evacuations with a stopwatch, we always heard complaints about the timing (‘Why today?’), the weather (‘It’s too cold/hot!’), things like that. But not anymore. Now, after every drill, I hear nothing but compliments about how well the system works. We haven’t had an actual emergency yet, but the level of engagement I see during drills convinces me that we’ll be ready.”

“Our area fire marshal observed one drill and wrote a letter to the superintendent saying that he’d never seen a more professionally run drill. He saw the staff monitoring their mobile devices and completely concentrating on completion of the drill. He told the superintendent that he had no idea such safety technology even existed.”

“I’m on the district health committee, which is headed by parents,” Wrzesinski continues. “When I introduced them to Raptor Emergency Management, they were so impressed they didn’t want to talk about anything else.” Wrzesinski is creating a parent presentation on the system to be shown at the beginning of next school year. “It’s the kind of thing that, once you’ve seen it, you’re really impressed.”

“I believe in the product,” Wrzesinski emphasizes. “I’ve already recommended Raptor Emergency Management to several other districts.”

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EVERY SCHOOL,
EVERY DAY.

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