

# CASE STUDY

## GREELEY-EVANS (CO) SCHOOL DISTRICT 6

Founded in 1870, Greeley-Evans School District 6 serves Pre-K—12 students in the communities of Greeley and Evans, approximately 60 miles north of Denver.

- 36 schools (11 elementary, 6 K–8, 4 middle schools, 5 high schools, 2 alternative, 8 charter): 22,000 students
- 9 identified sex offenders (2018-2019)

Raptor<sup>®</sup> Results in Flagged Sex Offenders, Volunteer Cost Savings, and Compliance in Greeley-Evans (CO) School District 6

### CHALLENGE

Stephen Brown, Assistant Director of Safety and Security for Greeley-Evans (CO) School District 6, witnessed the evolution of the district's approach to school safety over several years. "I'm a former police officer and spent five years as a school resource officer here in the district," he says. "A few years ago, events in Colorado and around the country influenced district leaders to perform a sort of district safety selfevaluation. They wanted to be proactive. We had not had any kind of serious incident—no single event was compelling the district to enhance school safety and security—but district officials wanted to take steps to make schools safer."

The district began researching automated visitor management and volunteer management systems that would screen people entering the district's buildings and record their visits. Later, as state mandates became more stringent regarding school safety drills, Greeley-Evans leaders sought a solution that would help them manage and track all the required drills—multiple fire drills, lockdowns, shelter-in-place and tornado/severe weather drills—across all the district's 36 schools. "We had inconsistencies," Brown says. "Some schools asked visitors for an ID. Some made photocopies for their records. All used handwritten visitor logs with the inherent inaccuracies that come with those, but some schools weren't very faithful about using them." Brown continues: "Regarding safety drills, we were much more consistent, but our management methods were a little antiquated. We used paper forms to record results, and they had to be compiled at the district office and put together in a spreadsheet. There was no real-time compliance information available. It always lagged."

#### SOLUTION

Greeley-Evans turned to Raptor Technologies<sup>®</sup> to address visitor, volunteer, and drill management. The Raptor<sup>®</sup> Visitor Management system scans visitors' state-issued IDs against national sex offender databases and can be configured to vet visitors against locally customized databases for things like custody and guardianship status. Approved visitors receive a printed sticker badge identifying them to school personnel as cleared to be in the building. If a visitor is not cleared,

silent notifications are instantly sent to appropriate administrators and school safety officials, who intercede before the person enters deeper into the building and can threaten students or staff. Integrated with the Visitor Management system is the Raptor<sup>®</sup> Volunteer Management system, which enables prospective volunteers to apply easily via a customizable online tool, similarly vets them for sex offender status and compiles background screening data for fast district review and approval, saving both time and expense.

Raptor Drill Manager gives us the constant compliance reminder, and Raptor Reunification helps us integrate with the city and county on safety practices.

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— Stephen Brown, Assistant Director of Safety and Security, Greeley-Evans (CO) School District 6

The district also added the Raptor Drill Manager<sup>®</sup> and Raptor Reunification<sup>®</sup> tools, enabling the district to easily schedule, manage, track compliance, and report drill status for every school from a set of easy-to-use dashboards, while giving individual schools detailed information regarding their own scheduled and completed drills. In case of an actual emergency, Raptor Reunification— 100% aligned with The "I Love U Guys" Foundation<sup>®</sup> Standard Reunification Method<sup>™</sup>—ensures accurate reunification of students with their approved caregivers four times faster than paper-and-pencil methods.

#### RESULTS

Since implementing Raptor, Greeley-Evans has flagged sex offenders attempting to visit schools. "Family members, in a couple of cases," Brown says. He has also reassured resistant parents about the system. "I explain that we share no information with outside agencies, such as the INS or ICE. Parents now understand we're making schools safer for their kids." Regarding drills, Brown mentions a culture shift: "We're moving to a new method, and some people are slower to adapt. But everyone sees the value, especially the consistency and improved compliance. Raptor Drill Manager gives us the constant compliance reminder, and Raptor Reunification helps us integrate with the city and county on safety practices. That's a good thing," Brown says. "I really would recommend the Raptor system to other school districts."

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