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TECHNOLOGIES



How Clay County Elementary Schools Balance Safety and Visitor Experience with Raptor EventSafe™

Clay County District Schools, Florida

Looking to keep campuses secure without turning event entry into a bottleneck, Clay County transformed elementary school events with Raptor EventSafe™.

CCDS in Clay County, Florida

Clay County District Schools is a mid-sized Florida district with 42 campuses and more than 36,000 students. With 28 elementary schools across the district, Clay County school staff manage a steady, high-volume calendar of events. “We run every type of event you can imagine,” says Paula Summers, Family and Community Engagement Specialist for the district.

From quarterly award ceremonies for every grade level to concerts and open houses, these events draw large numbers of parents onto campus during the school day. Clay County schools needed a dedicated system to manage high-volume events and meet visitor screening requirements without impacting guest experience, which led them to choose Raptor EventSafe.

> **The front office is much happier using EventSafe. It definitely impacts their experience and makes their day better.**

Paula Summers, Family and Community Engagement Specialist

CHALLENGES

Clay County elementary schools were running frequent, high-attendance events and found it hard to strike a balance between safety and efficiency. “We’re trying to encourage community events that bring in families in an efficient, friendly way without compromising security,” says Summers.

Florida state requirements for daytime visitor screening meant every guest needed to be checked in properly, but the district’s existing process couldn’t keep up with the fast pace demanded by large events.

“It’s a very time-consuming process to stand in line, have your ID scanned, and get a badge printed out for that many people,” Summers explains. “An elementary school is not used to processing that with only one front office secretary and one backup.”

Clay County schools needed an event management solution that could

- meet Florida’s ID verification and screening requirements
- match event volume without creating unreasonable wait times
- handle multiple high-volume events in a single day, on a single campus
- reduce administrative burden for staff, not add to it

> **It’s always been really hard to see long lines of people when they’ve taken off work or changed something about their day to be there for their child. When they’re standing there, just waiting...that’s not the experience we want for them.**

Paula Summers, Family and Community Engagement Specialist

HOW RAPTOR HELPED

Clay County District Schools currently uses Raptor EventSafe in two of their elementary schools, including one of the larger campuses: Oakleaf Village Elementary. Summers, who previously worked at the school, helped coordinate the pilot program from the district side with her firsthand knowledge of Oakleaf's event needs.

Since implementing EventSafe, Clay County schools now use an event management system with

- **Advance setup built into the event calendar.** Events are created in EventSafe two to three weeks ahead of time with a QR code and flyer created for each one and shared through the district's communication platform, teacher emails, or physical flyers depending on the event and audience.

- **An intuitive ticketing system for parents and family members.** Families register in advance through the Raptor Safe App and receive a unique QR code that can be redeemed with a quick scan at check-in. This saves time without sacrificing security, as the mobile app verifies identity and ties each ticket to that individual, vetted Raptor passport.

- **Dedicated, low-maintenance hardware.** Front offices run event check-in with tablets and printers set up at standing stations, ready to go for daytime events without needing extra equipment. EventSafe software applies the same screening standard as regular visitor check-in, in compliance with Florida law.

- **A check-in system that scales with event size and staffing.** On event day, signs directs guests to either an express lane—for anyone who pre-registered—or a standard lane. Staff can split duties between greeting guests at the door, assisting guests with tablet stations, and manning the front desk. "We don't need someone at every tablet," Summers says. "The stations are close together, so staff members can bounce around if someone is having trouble."

RESULTS

With EventSafe, Clay County schools can now replace a slow, manual process with one efficient and secure enough to keep pace with the busiest elementary school events. Families are getting used to registering in advance, and staff no longer have to choose between moving families through check-in lines quickly and screening every guest properly.

EventSafe has given Clay County District Schools a way to balance school safety, operational efficiency, and a welcoming campus environment. “That’s what we want to see more of for our schools,” Summers says, explaining how she and her team continue to focus on building security and consistency into event management across the district, working toward expanding EventSafe to all Clay County District schools.

> **We want to be friendly. We want to be welcoming. But we also want parents to know that we’re keeping their children safe. And that’s the beauty of EventSafe: It brings those two things together in a way that also makes our staff’s lives easier.**

Paula Summers, Family and Community Engagement Specialist



LEARN MORE ABOUT RAPTOR®

The Raptor software ecosystem ties together the critical aspects of school safety, from prevention through recovery. Find out how we can work together in our mutual goals of **protecting every child, every school, every day.™**

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