



MARYSVILLE (CA) JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Marysville JUSD extends 75 miles north/northeast from the greater Sacramento area.

- 10,300+ students
- 2300 staff members; 450 teachers
- 22 schools serving grades K-12

CASE STUDY

Marysville (CA) JUSD Proactively Makes Its Schools Safer with the Raptor® Visitor Management System

CHALLENGE

For several years, leaders in the Marysville Joint Unified School District—located 30 miles north of Sacramento, California, and running for a further 75 miles north and east—had monitored the increasing nationwide concern for improving K-12 campus safety. They determined to do something to enhance school security before their district actually experienced an incident. Marysville JUSD serves more than 10,300 K-12 students in 22 schools. Jolie Carreon, Marysville’s director of attendance and discipline, while emphasizing the diversity of her district, affirms that everyone, from parents to teachers to district officials to community members, places the highest priority on keeping students and staff members safe.

Early in 2018, Carreon researched systems that could help district administrators and staff know precisely who was entering their buildings and track persons during their visits. Carreon invited several vendors to demonstrate their products. “After the demo process was completed, we chose Raptor® Visitor Management,” Carreon explains. “We felt that the Raptor system offered the best array of features to help us add an extra layer of security for the protection of our schools.”



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- Jolie Carreon, Director of Attendance and Discipline, Marysville (CA) Joint Unified School District



SOLUTION

Using the Raptor® system, the district eliminated cumbersome and inherently inaccurate pen-and-paper sign-in logs. Now every school visitor has their state-issued ID scanned upon entering a school. The Raptor system screens visitors' identities against sex offender registries in all 50 states, as well as local custom databases containing information on restraining orders, custody directives, and prior district incidents. If the system determines a match, instant silent alerts are sent to building and district administrators, enabling them to intercede before a potentially threatening person can gain access to students or classroom staff. "Raptor is a huge improvement over the old manual methods," says Carreon. "We used to have to check hand-written names against printed files, and that took a long time. With Raptor, screening visitors is practically instantaneous, and the printed badges—including the visitor's picture—let everyone in the building know that the visitor has been authorized."

RESULTS

Marysville JUSD officials, administrators, and staff are all pleased with the Raptor system. "There's always some apprehension on the part of users with anything new," Carreon says. "That goes for staff as well as parents. Once our front office staff members had time to see the system at work, they all got on board. They understand that Raptor has really tightened up our security. The same goes for our parents. We communicated to our families early with letters home explaining that the system is designed to keep their children safer; parents are very supportive. And, of course, our administrators love it." Marysville officials are so pleased with the system that they're now considering adding the Raptor Volunteer Management system to their toolbox to help them manage the district's parent and community volunteers.

Implementation of the system was smooth. "We took the time to thoroughly prepare our staff members. The Raptor rep really helped us there, and the technical support people have been great. No real glitches," says Carreon. In fact, the biggest technical issue occurred during the recent spate of disastrous wildfires in California. "The fires cut power to some towers, so we were knocked offline for a bit. But that was corrected quickly, and it really had nothing to do with the product."

Would Marysville JUSD officials recommend Raptor to districts seeking visitor management solutions? "Absolutely! We had some representatives from a neighboring district in here just yesterday," says Carreon. "We showed them how we use the system, and we shared samples of our parent communications. Believe me, we're big fans."

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- Jolie Carreon, Director of Attendance and Discipline,
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EVERY SCHOOL, EVERY DAY.**

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