

# RAPTOR<sup>®</sup>

TECHNOLOGIES

THE GOLD STANDARD IN SCHOOL SAFETY

## CASE STUDY

### Duval County (FL) Public Schools Ensures Emergency Preparedness and Compliance with Raptor Drill Manager<sup>®</sup>

#### CHALLENGE

The deadly incident at Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School in Parkland, Florida, in February 2018 catalyzed school districts across the state to improve safety and security for their students and staffs. “Duval County Public Schools, just like other school districts, had been having discussions about school safety prior to MSD, and we were looking for a software system that would allow us to conduct and record detailed results for safety drills across all our 150-plus schools,” says Duval County School Police Department Assistant Chief Wayne Clark. “Recording, compiling, and reporting on drill results is a big task in a large school district—Duval County Public Schools is one of the biggest, with nearly 125,000 students—and prior to the events at MSD, we were only mandated to conduct fire drills. We already had this logistical need, and we wanted to address it.”

At the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) conference in Miami, Chief Clark learned of Raptor Technologies<sup>®</sup> and the company’s Emergency Management solution, a preparedness, response, and recovery system that combines proven emergency practices with 21st-century technology to help school districts maintain real-time visibility during drills, active incidents, and parent-student reunification. Chief Clark was particularly interested in the Drill Manager component to address his district’s issue at hand. “Drill Manager caught my attention, but by the spring of 2018, following MSD and the subsequent requirement by the Florida legislature that all school districts conduct additional monthly emergency drills, we no longer had just an interest in a drill coordination system—we had a critical need,” says Chief Clark.

#### DUVAL COUNTY (FL) PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Duval County Public Schools, the 20th largest school district in the U.S., serves K-12 students in Duval County, Florida, in the greater Jacksonville area.

- 156 schools (104 elementary, 30 middle schools, 22 high schools): approximately 130,000 students
- 600+ drills and school safety events managed each month districtwide



It’s one thing to say you conducted a drill; it’s another to prove it with documentation and to have that documentation at your fingertips. With Drill Manager, we always have a record, historically, for every single event.

— Director Micheal Edwards,  
Duval County School Police Department



## SOLUTION

Duval County Public Schools moved to implement Raptor® Emergency Management in stages, leading with Raptor Drill Manager® in August 2019. Drill Manager allows districts to publish drill requirements instantly districtwide, so building administrators can easily schedule monthly drills. Automated notifications remind each school of upcoming drills, and alerts to district administrators update current districtwide or building-specific drill status and tell them of any noncompliant schools. Schools can initiate drills directly from any web-enabled device. Drill initiation shows up immediately on the district dashboard. Drill results automatically populate in real time in the district dashboard. Drill-down dashboards allow officials to scan drills per building, drill type, and compliance status. Complete and accurate status reports for individual schools or the entire district can be produced virtually instantly.

“After MSD, we had to manage fire drills, active shooter drills, and environmental safety reports for every school, every month,” says Chief Clark. “In addition, we hold monthly behavior threat assessment team meetings at each school. We folded that process into the system as well, so that’s four mandated events per month per school managed through Drill Manager. That’s huge in helping us make sure we remain in compliance with state mandates.”

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## RESULTS

The district’s safety team and the School Police Department have really embraced the ability of Raptor Drill Manager to simplify safety compliance efforts. “Another feature of Drill Manager that we really like is the ability to upload any pertinent documents to inform drill results, or meetings, or safety assessments, etc. It’s one thing to say you conducted a drill; it’s another to prove it with documentation and to have that documentation at your fingertips. With Drill Manager, we always have a record, historically, for every single event,” says School Police Department Director Michael Edwards.

“The state audits our safety records every three years. During our most recent audit we didn’t have Drill Manager in place. Accessing and sharing complete documentation of safety events without a system like this is a challenge, to say the least. That whole process is going to be so much easier going forward with Drill Manager,” emphasizes Edwards.

“We have 156 schools,” says Chief Clark. “156 times ten months in the school year times four mandated drills and events per month per school—that’s more than 6,000 safety events for which we need full compliance documentation. That’s a lot of paperwork that Raptor helps us manage. I’d absolutely recommend Raptor Drill Manager to any other school district.”

**PROTECT EVERY CHILD,  
EVERY SCHOOL, EVERY DAY.**

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