



New York Magnet School Leverages Toshiba IP Cameras For Cost-Effective Network Monitoring & Surveillance Solution

The Mount Vernon City School District is located in the south-eastern corner of Westchester County, NY, operating 15 schools with an enrollment of over 10,000 students. The A.B. Davis Middle School is a district magnet school that serves 867 students, 75 teachers, 5 administrators, 4 counselors, a psychologist and 30 support staff members.

To safeguard its students and staff, A.B. Davis Middle School subscribes to a Zero Tolerance policy to violence, drugs and gangs, and they have made a concerted effort to establish themselves as a "safe harbor" for learning. As part of this initiative, they used the recent summer break to install an IP Network Video Surveillance System – the first in Mt Vernon City School District's history. By leveraging their existing network infrastructure and installing IP Video Corporation's Enterprise Surveillance System coupled with Toshiba network cameras, the school saved thousands of dollars while benefiting from IP Network video's scalability, Power-Over-Ethernet (PoE) capabilities and remote management. Eliminated was the need for additional Ethernet cable pulls, complex coaxial runs, outdated analog equipment and expensive electrical rework.

The goal of the A.B. Davis project was an integrated, full-featured video surveillance program for real-time monitoring both inside and outside the school. Administrators also wanted a system that would be easy to access by authorized users, and delivered the greatest value for the dollars spent, and that could be expanded upon to meet future needs.

The district worked with integrator A+ Technology Solutions, Inc. to install the IP Network Surveillance System.

"The goals of the A.B. Davis project can be summed up as accessibility, affordability and scalability," notes David Antar, President of A+ Technology Solutions. "Immediately we saw the cost-savings and performance enhancing potential of the school's network infrastructure. The school district's IT team were very enthusiastic about an IP Network-based solution."



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The district's IT department configured a separate VLAN infrastructure for the IP Video System to better manage network utilization. An IP Video Corporation Visual Sentry NVR boasting a massive four-terabytes of storage tapped into

the network's capacity. The Visual Sentry NVR software makes it possible for any workstation on the network to be utilized as a viewing client for monitoring live video or retrieving archives. A security console with eight rack-mounted LCD 19-inch monitors is located in the Security Operations Center (SOC) deep inside A.B. Davis Middle School. At the security console, up to 64 cameras can be viewed simultaneously on



each monitor. In addition, live video and recorded archives can be viewed via the Internet with remote viewing client software. The NVR is located in

the facility's server room, providing a centralized secure location to capture and store images. As future needs arise, additional image storage and viewing modules can easily be added to the system. For instance, A+ Technology Solutions is in discussions to bring video access to local police at their headquarters via the Internet or a wireless network from a police car.

In selecting a supplier for the 104 IP Network cameras to install, A+ Technology Solutions chose Toshiba. The decision was based on performance, value and most importantly, the Toshiba cameras' ability to be easily integrated into IP Video Corporation's Visual Sentry NVR.

Inside the school, 94 Toshiba IK-WR01A vandal-resistant network domes were installed in cafeterias, hallways and classrooms, while another 10 Toshiba IK-WB21A PTZ-style network cameras were mounted within heated enclosures outside the school's parameter to watch parking lots and schoolyards.

The Toshiba IK-WR01A combines a rugged vandal-resistant design with hybrid network/analog capabilities, 640 x 480 resolution and a 30 frame-per-second frame rate.



But what really made the camera stand out to A+ Technology Solutions was its 802.3af PoE support, requiring only a single Ethernet cable to deliver both communications and power. The result is better placement flexibility and lower installation costs while facilitating the use of uninterruptible power supply with the camera, so that video monitoring can continue in the event of a power failure.

"The Toshiba camera's PoE support saved Mt. Vernon School District thousands of dollars in electrical hardwiring," notes Antar.

A+ Technology Solutions was equally enthusiastic about the Toshiba IK-WB21A that offers ultra-fast Pan/Tilt/Zoom (PTZ) capability with 22X optical zoom, razor-sharp SXVGA resolution (1280 x 960) and a slot for a removable SD memory card, allowing for an added "at-the-camera" recording option that works in conjunction with an alarm.

The Toshiba cameras can be programmed and operated using the Visual Sentry NVR, with options such as frame rate, motion detection or resolution being individually set for each camera.

David Antar of A+ Technology Solutions has no doubt about the systems effectiveness: "Between IP Video Corporation's NVR and Toshiba cameras, this system is truly state-of-the-art. It is a good feeling knowing that we are protecting children while they get the education they need to improve their lives."