BOARD OF EDUCATION



School District 45, DuPage County Villa Park, Illinois

Subject: Proposal to Upgrade Security Camera System

Date: 11/12/2024

As part of the district's continuing focus on safety and security, we have conducted a comprehensive review of our existing security camera system, originally installed during the 2012-2013 school year. Over the years, we have expanded the system with additional cameras and implemented incremental software updates, including a major upgrade to the CompleteView software in 2020. However, the core infrastructure of the system has remained unchanged.

To gain a broader perspective on the system's effectiveness, we solicited feedback from key stakeholders, including the Safety Committee, Building Leadership, and District Leadership. This feedback highlighted substantial concerns related to the usability of the camera footage retrieval system. While the system consistently records and stores footage, the process for retrieving, downloading, and archiving this footage is cumbersome and inefficient. This hinders the administration's ability to promptly investigate safety and security concerns. Additionally, the search features within the system are slow and lack the robustness required for effective investigations. Furthermore, the mobile app, a critical component for real-time monitoring and immediate footage access, has consistently underperformed.

Based on these identified shortcomings and the feedback received, we recommend upgrading the system to X-Protect by Milestone. In April and May of this year, we conducted a pilot program utilizing X-Protect with our existing cameras to assess compatibility and functionality. The results were promising, with the user interface of X-Protect, both on computers and mobile devices, proving to be superior to CompleteView. Moreover, X-Protect offers a clientless option, providing the district with greater flexibility in emergency situations that demand quick and unpredictable access to camera footage. The search and retrieval features of X-Protect also demonstrated a marked improvement, enabling more efficient access to desired footage, particularly when reviewing extended periods such as overnight or weekends.

The initial proposal from CDW-G for the X-Protect system includes the following costs:

• Software licensing: \$91,456.00

Hardware: \$22,324.98

Hardware and software installation support: \$22,912.00

• Total: \$136,692.98

We currently have \$125,000 allocated from the FY25 Technology Budget for this project. We are actively collaborating with CDW-G to identify potential cost-saving measures within the proposal before presenting the final plan for board approval. Our goal is to ensure that the district receives the most effective and efficient security camera system possible while remaining fiscally responsible.