



SUCCESS STORY:

Prioritizing Safety at Fulton County Schools

Fulton County Schools

Industry: Education

Location: Atlanta, Georgia, USA



Founded in 1871, Fulton County School System is the fourth largest school district in Georgia, United States. It consists of 101 schools and administrative support buildings, including 67 elementary schools, 19 middle schools, 17 high schools and eight charter organizations. Fulton's mission is to provide a safe and secure environment for its more than 96,000 students and more than 12,000 full-time employees.

To help enhance safety at more than 100 schools, Fulton has installed a full Avigilon surveillance solution that includes Avigilon cameras with self-learning video analytics, Avigilon network video recorders, and Avigilon Control Center (ACC) video management software with Avigilon Appearance Search technology. Fulton is also deploying Avigilon Access Control Manager to secure physical access points, providing an integrated security solution for the district.

Fulton sought to replace analog cameras with an end-to-end high definition surveillance system camera system in order to maximize protection, enable proactive event response, and facilitate the recording, capturing and sharing of clear footage with its school board, police and the concerned public.

Avigilon Solutions Implemented

Avigilon Control Center (ACC) Software

Allows quick and easy review of live or recorded video with a simplified screen layout, intuitive controls and self-learning video analytics. Also features [Avigilon Appearance Search™ technology](#) to help you quickly find a person or vehicle of interest.

HD Multisensor Camera Line

Provides flexible scene coverage with one license and wire pull to save on installation, time, and cost.

H4 HD Bullet Cameras

Provide maximum coverage for seeing activity in complete darkness

Access Control Manager (ACM) System

Works together with ACC software to produce action-based alarms, and notifications so you can respond quickly to events.

Self-Learning Video Analytics

Recognize and detect the movements of people and vehicles, notifying operators of events that may need further investigation.

The Challenge:

Upgrade an Obsolete Video Surveillance System to Better Protect Staff and Students

Securing more than 100 buildings is no easy feat, but it's of utmost importance to the Department of Safety and Security at Fulton, which also includes the School Police and Student Health Services and Emergency.

With recent data showing above average student incident rates and student disciplinary concerns at some schools, upgrades to the surveillance system were needed to allow better local and remote monitoring in important areas.

“One of the biggest security challenges we face is our ability to reliably monitor important areas throughout our schools, especially during an emergency. With Avigilon, we not only benefit from exceptional image quality, but their advanced video analytics, like Avigilon Appearance Search technology, save us valuable time and effort, ultimately making our schools a safer place.”

– Paul Hildreth, Emergency Operations, Safety & Security,
Fulton County School System

The Solution:

Install the Complete Avigilon Solution

Avigilon high-definition cameras with self-learning video analytics and access control solutions have been installed in 101 schools. Avigilon Control Center (ACC) and Avigilon Appearance Search Technology ACC 6 video management software with Avigilon Appearance Search technology is a particularly exciting new development for the district.

“We chose Avigilon because of the capabilities it offers in its advanced video analytics search technologies, including Avigilon Appearance Search,” said **Paul Hildreth, Emergency Operations, Safety and Security for Fulton**. “Their analytics are easy to set up and use, and can save us valuable time and effort, ultimately making our schools a safer place for generations to come.”

Avigilon Appearance Search video analytics technology uses a sophisticated deep learning artificial intelligence search engine to sort through hours of footage with ease. This technology allows Fulton’s operators to click on a button and search for all instances of a person or vehicle across all cameras on a site, quickly and efficiently. This can save Fulton time and effort during critical investigations as Avigilon Appearance Search technology intelligently analyzes video data, helping to track a person’s or vehicle’s route and identify previous and last-known locations.

Avigilon self-learning video analytics enable proactive, real-time event response. Built from the ground up to manage high-definition video, Avigilon offers self-learning analytics on camera resolutions of up to 5K (16 MP).

The Avigilon H4 Platform

Avigilon H4 bullet and dome cameras from the new [H4 platform](#) were installed, offering self-learning video analytics, greater resolution performance and Wide Dynamic Range support. Avigilon H4 cameras are available in 1 to 5 MP and 4K Ultra HD (8 MP) resolutions. Avigilon Multisensor cameras were also set up to capture challenging angles



and provide total coverage within a 180 to 360-degree area. Upgrading the district’s surveillance solutions began three years ago with a single high school as a pilot program. The success of this replacement led the district to integrate ACC software in other school projects and, in 2014, Fulton opened new administrative centers with both Avigilon access control and video surveillance solutions. At the start of 2017, Fulton began implementing a three-year approach to completing the upgrade.

The Results:

Exceptional Image Quality and Effective Video Surveillance

Before switching to the Avigilon solution, the district was challenged with low system reliability, which resulted in not having video evidence when needed. Furthermore, in situations where there was recorded footage, it was not of high enough quality to provide value. With the installation of Avigilon video surveillance, Fulton has benefited from exceptional image quality and resolution across wide areas in all lighting conditions.

The ongoing Avigilon implementation will provide the district with crucial and powerful insights that can help save time and effort during critical investigations. With the help of Avigilon trusted security solutions, the future looks bright for Fulton County Schools. ■

Next Steps

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