



2018-2019 SECURITY & COMMUNICATION IMPROVEMENTS



A STORY OF COLLABORATION

Made possible through the generosity of the Catholic Foundation, independent donors, and St. Michael Church.



THE
CATHOLIC
FOUNDATION



S3 TECHNOLOGIES

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IDENTIFYING THE NEED

St. Michael School identified the need to increase security and communication throughout the school campus. The following areas were identified.

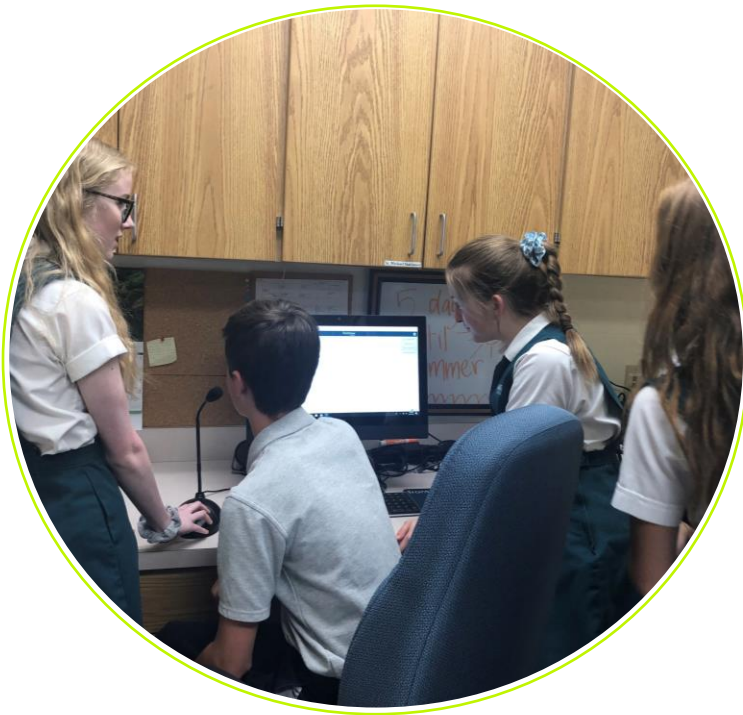
- **Gaps in the ability to hear the announcements** clearly throughout the building. This included some classrooms, gym, stairwells, common areas, meeting rooms and playground.
- **Little to no two-way communication with the office** for the teachers. The PA's had been retrofitted with call buttons to allow teachers to call the office.
- The existing **bell system** could not be reprogrammed designate between different bell schedules. Specifically, the Middle School Grades had longer class schedules and their bell schedule needed to be different then the primary grades.
- **Poor cellphone coverage** in the school meant the teachers or students had no way of calling out in an emergency situation.
- Fixing the **PA system would have been costly**, and a PA system alone cannot meet all of a school's safety needs.

SYSTEM BENEFITS

To increase safety and communications at St. Michael School, St. Michael partnered with S3 Technologies to install a Star2Star voice over IP phone system (VoIP) and a FrontRow audio enhancement system to integrate the existing PA, bell, and phone systems. The systems tie together to provide:

- Clear announcements via the telephone speakers as well as existing PA speakers and new audio enhancement speakers (in select rooms)
- The ability to page or make announcements from any phone
- The ability to communicate back with the office
- A way to reach emergency personnel, with the possibility of having first responders know exactly from where in the building the call originated
- Teacher voicemail, with the option to receive voicemail notifications via email.
- The ability to make phone calls to parents from the classroom during planning periods or before/after school.
- New bell management software to allow for different bell schedules for different zones of the building
- Integrated speakers/microphones for teacher instruction or student presentations and enhanced sound from devices (laptops, iPads, etc.).





PAGING AND INTERCOM

Announcements

Middle School students conducted morning and afternoon announcements for the school. In addition, the new system allowed for pre-recorded songs, such as the National Anthem, to be incorporated into the announcements. The school was also able to program the Angelus to play inside and outside the school at noon to indicate to all students to stop and pray.

Paging Classrooms

The Juno Connect system allows the office to page by room, zone, or entire school. If the teacher is talking or streaming sound through the Juno, a page from the office overrides the Juno. The teacher may answer the page from anywhere in the room, even if they are not wearing a microphone.

Paging the Entire Campus

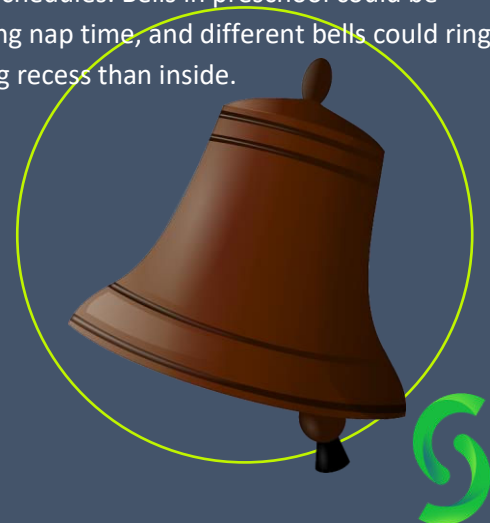
By integrating the Star2Star VoIP phone system and the FrontRow system, administration can initiate an all campus page through all speakers and phones from within the school or from off-campus. This ensures that the entire campus can be reached in the event of an emergency.



Administration can initiate an all page to the entire campus from any phone.

CUSTOMIZED BELLS

The Juno Connect system allows for the creation of customized bell schedules. Specials teachers were able to have bells ring only in their room, according to their asynchronous schedules. Bells in preschool could be turned off during nap time, and different bells could ring outdoors during recess than inside.



CLASSROOM COMMUNICATION

With the Office

Teachers need not leave a sick child to call for the nurse. Teachers can initiate a call to the office from anywhere in the room by pressing the microphone button and saying "Intercom".

With Emergency Personnel

Teachers can call 911 from the new Star2Star phones in their rooms. In addition, with Star2Star's e911 feature, the emergency personnel receive floor location as well as the school name and address.

With Parents

The new phone system facilitates increased school-home communication. Teachers can make calls to parents from the privacy of their room. They receive voicemail from parents both on their phone and through their email.

CLASSROOM AUDIO ENHANCEMENT

Teacher

Teachers can project their voices with more clarity and range of expression using their audio enhancement in the classroom. Teachers readily took to the new system, as evidenced by them wearing their microphones around the school. Classroom teachers would walk into the library and immediately connect to the Juno in the library, seamlessly projecting their voices. The gym teacher, who had health issues with her throat/voice, was able to project her voice without any extra strain.

Students

Students enjoy reading and presenting using the student and teacher microphones. Other students are able to pay more attention in class because they can hear their classmates more clearly. All students benefit from the teachers' use of the microphone. The microphone helps students block out white noise, understand the teacher more clearly, and pay better attention.

"I have had 2 classes and this is AMAZING!! I can be anywhere in the gym and it works! It is loud, clear... just AMAZING! THANKS!!!!!!"

