Phoenix Union High School District (PUHSD)
Phoenix, AZ

ABOUT  Launched in 1895, the Phoenix Union High School District (PUHSD) has grown into hundreds of buildings, serving 30,000+ students and staff. PUHSD, one of the largest high school districts in the US, launched a comprehensive fire safety system upgrade in 2017. More importantly, the district also wanted to include the newest technologies available to support first responders and maximize response efficiencies. Brian Gould of LVC, an authorized NOTIFIER Engineered Systems Distributor (ESD) in Phoenix, was selected to design and install a pilot system for Maryvale High School (MSH). If proven successful, it would be extended to the remaining nineteen schools within PUHSD.

CHALLENGE  Design a comprehensive fire safety system to optimize first responder efficiencies at the local school level and one that can be networked throughout 20 large campuses within the school district.

NEEDS  › Easy to identify trouble locations for First Responders at campus entry locations
› Network scalability over hundreds of buildings with centralized intelligence
› Replicable across each campus

BENEFITS  › Decreased response time through immediate availability of critical data upon arrival at property
› Requires only minimal operator training due to superior ease-of-use
› Local operator control combined with district-wide visibility

ONYXWorks® with FirstVision™ graphics makes it much easier to take the right actions and fast.

Laymon Collins, Alarm Technician, PUHSD
SOLUTION
To address the very specific needs for PUHSD, LVC chose to install NOTIFIER ONYXWorks® interfaced with FirstVision™ first responder technology at each high school campus.

The ONYXWorks system is a single-point-of-control workstation for centralized life safety management. This intelligent fire safety system can be networked across single-site, multi-site and worldwide applications, making it the ideal choice for the expansive PUHSD properties. By installing ONYX® series panels and digital voice activation devices at each building, LVC was able to scale the fire systems to each particular campus’ needs.

To address PUHSD’s specific requirement for increased response efficiencies at each school, LVC installed FirstVision displays at the main property entrances to each school. FirstVision is a wayfinding navigational touchscreen tool for first responders, and unique to NOTIFIER. While ONYXWorks is the control center for this life safety system, it relies on FirstVision to pull forward and deliver critical emergency data from its central location within the school, to the main point of entry for first responders. Upon arrival at the campus property, firefighters can immediately assess the emergency, and direct safety measures without wasting valuable time searching for the central network panel.

FirstVision features a 22” LCD intuitive touch screen that details campus floor plans, locations of active fire alarm devices, water supplies, evacuation routes, access routes, gas, power and HVAC shutoffs, and chemical and structural hazards within the buildings. Since each of the 20 high schools had different site and building layouts, having access to maps and situational data at points of entry was key for ensuring maximum safety and containment measures.

LVC provided a comprehensive NOTIFIER fire safety solution that was replicable throughout all 20 PUHSD schools. Most notably, each campus’s ONYXWorks with FirstVision system was networked into one central location within the PUHSD headquarters, giving officials full visibility throughout their district.

The District was extremely happy with the process, from install, to testing, to demo of the old system and our expertise on retrofit projects.

Gary Laborg, Branch Manager, LVC

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