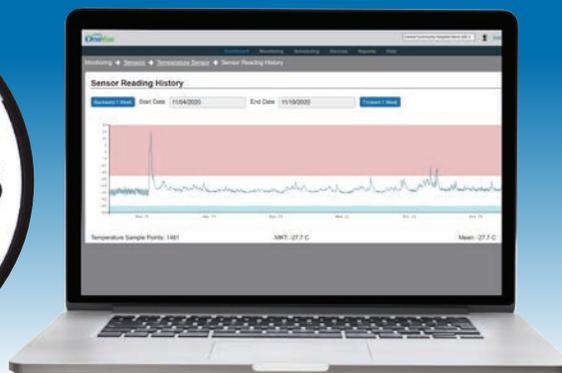




PROTECT WHAT MATTERS MOST:

A Guide to Navigate Your School Through the New Normal

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As we emerge from the 2020 pandemic, a renewed commitment to the safety and security of students and staff will be paramount for learning institutions worldwide. Elementary schools, colleges, and universities will have to ensure proper measures are in place to not only minimize health risks but also to put students in a communicative, safe, and on-time learning environment. School leaders can use this guide to find the right resources and tools to create such an environment.

SCHOOL SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS IN THE NEW NORMAL

Whether a school is new or old, big or small, all students, faculty, and staff within deserve to feel like they are in a safe environment every day. The U.S. Department of Education, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration all have published information, best practices, and strategies to help place students in safe and healthy environments, which include:

- ✓ Implementing Crisis Prevention and Mitigation Strategies
- ✓ Enacting Staggered or Alternate Schedules
- ✓ Optimizing In-Person Classrooms and Facility Equipment

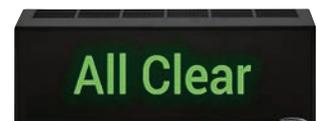
IMPLEMENTING CRISIS PREVENTION AND MITIGATION STRATEGIES

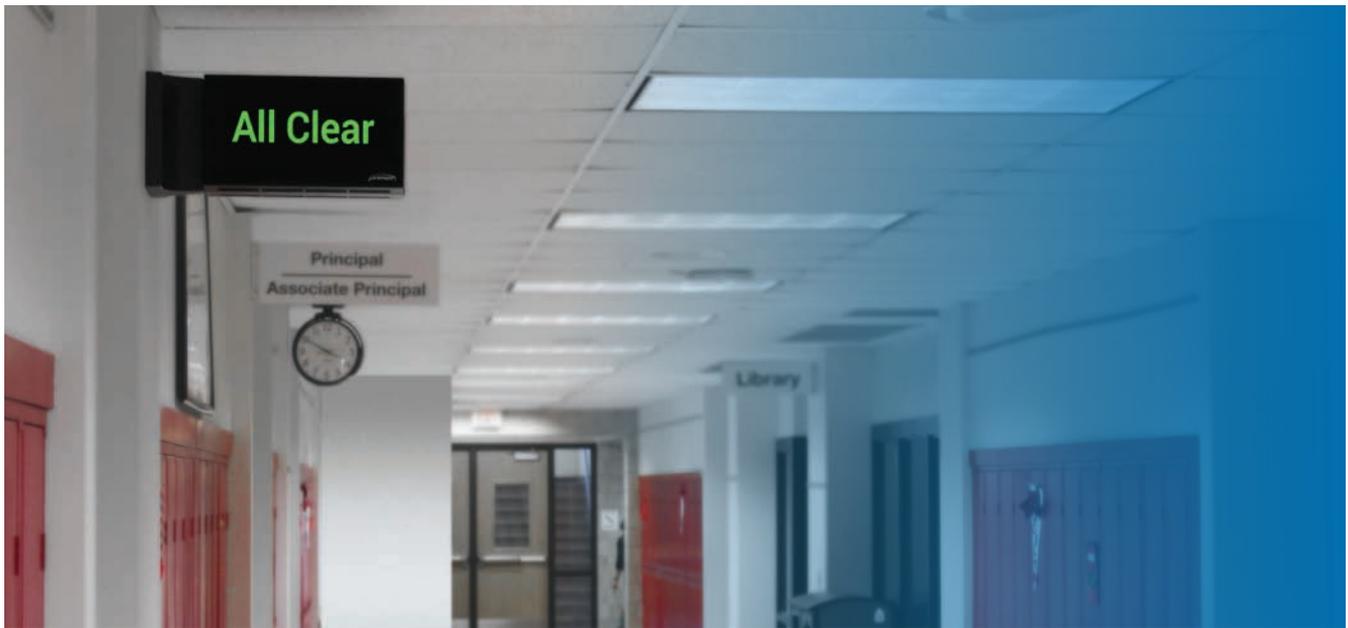
In today's day and age, every second matters during a school emergency. Quickly notifying your entire school that a lockdown is in place due to an active shooter or a severe weather threat is imminent can save lives. Visual notifications can be an added layer to your emergency communication plan to do just that. When posted throughout your school or campus, visual notification boards can:

- ✓ Inform the entire school of an emergency within seconds of it first happening
- ✓ Help to get students to safety sooner
- ✓ Silently communicate in loud or tense situations where audio messages aren't practical

Another part of crisis prevention outlined by the U.S. DOE is using strategies such as [drills and tabletop exercises](#) to practice the actions necessary if an emergency occurs. Visual notifications can help to properly coordinate these practices by posting instructions throughout your school.

Primex OneVue Notify® InfoBoard™ displays are [LED display panels](#) that can convey critical visual notifications and general messages to increase the safety of your student body.





ENACTING STAGGERED OR ALTERNATE SCHEDULES

With some physical distancing measures still in place, some schools must adapt to find methods to keep too many students from congregating at once. Clear instruction from school leadership and posted wayfinding directions can help to keep students from getting too close, jeopardizing safety. Additionally, ensuring students are in the right place at the right time can limit safety risks that come from being too physically close or having students wander out of place.

A synchronized time system throughout your entire school or campus can help to ensure students are where they need to be. With everybody running on the same time, a staggered or alternate schedule, [which is an operational strategy recommended by the CDC](#), can be followed more easily. To further help students be where they need to be, the following actions can assist:

- Displaying A/B day reminders throughout hallways or buildings
- Posting a countdown timer between class periods
- Integrating your PA and class bell system with a synchronized time solution

Primex OneVue Sync™ offers a [wide variety of analog and digital clocks](#) with three different synchronization technologies to keep your students, faculty, and staff all running on the same time. The Primex OneVue Notify InfoBoard displays can also display synchronized time, as well as A/B day reminders and countdown timers to help keep students informed and on time.



OPTIMIZING IN-PERSON CLASSROOMS AND FACILITY EQUIPMENT

As more students begin to head back to campus and pack elementary school classrooms, education leaders must do their part to ensure their facilities are safe. With a [new focus on indoor air quality in schools](#), it would behoove school facility staff to check that their heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system is working correctly. If so, an added step to ensure a safe indoor learning environment would be installing indoor air quality monitors.



Primex OneVue Sense™ **Temperature and Humidity Sensors** monitor air quality to help your classroom maintain its comfort level. If humidity is too high or too low, you can take action to avoid health and other risks.



If Humidity is Too High (> 55% RH):

- The extra moisture in the air facilitates the growth of mold, bacteria, and viruses
- Individuals with asthma are more prone to having asthma attacks
- Condensation can form on windows and in ceilings, potentially damaging building materials



If Humidity is Too Low (< 25% RH):

- Drier air allows for airborne diseases to spread more easily, as there is a smaller number of particles in the air to stop the illness from spreading
- Mucous membranes, throats, eyes, and skin are all more prone to becoming dried out, causing itchiness and irritation
- Wooden items, such as windowpanes, furniture, or floors can shrink, potentially damaging your school's structural integrity

School leaders and facility staff should also remember that some behind-the-scenes equipment can impact school safety. As part of [The National Council on School Facilities' guidance](#), schools should consider long-unused items and check for usability. For example, cafeteria refrigerators and freezers, nursing or healthcare office equipment, and restroom plumbing should all be up to standard. School facility managers can manage these areas by:

- Monitoring refrigerator and freezer temperatures in cafeterias or on-campus restaurants
- Logging medication-based refrigerator or freezer temperatures in nursing offices or on-campus health centers
- Using contact closure technology to determine if a food or medication storage unit has been open or closed for too long
- Utilizing leak detectors in restrooms or near water fountains

Primex OneVue Sense environmental monitoring technology can assist facility staff in all of these areas. Primex OneVue Sense **Temperature Sensors** and **Contact Closure Sensors** help to ensure food and medication remain at proper temperatures, so students have safe food to eat and effective medications to take if necessary. In addition, Primex OneVue Sense **Water Leak Detectors** can be placed in leak-prone areas to prevent injuries due to slipping and falling or avoid costly water damage.



WE'RE HERE TO HELP

As schools being to navigate through the new normal, an emphasis on communication, timeliness, and safety will be vital, and ample resources and tools are available to help.



The [Primex OneVue suite of products](#) presents an all-in-one solution for schoolwide communication, time synchronization, and environmental monitoring. **All Primex OneVue products can report into one web-based software platform**, where administration or facility staff can:

- **Customize InfoBoard messages** to convey school-specific information or directions
- **View, analyze, and print incident reports** to assess a situation and learn how to improve
- **Manage a bell schedule** to keep students aware of classes or the school day ending
- **Receive real-time text message, phone call, or email alerts** if:
 - Humidity becomes too high or too low within a given classroom, which enables staff to take action to adjust room comfort levels
 - A refrigerator or freezer temperature falls or rises above a customized range, which gives staff an opportunity to check on valuable assets before they go to waste or are given to students
 - A water leak is detected, which allows facility staff to assess the area and fix an issue before safety is compromised or building materials are damaged

With these solutions, schools of any size can continue to create the safest environment possible for students, faculty, and staff.

Are you looking for a partner to help your school, college, or university navigate the new normal?

[Reach out to schedule a consultation today.](#)

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