

# Dependable Communications for K-12 Education

A dependable, flexible communications system is critical to serving the needs of a school district's parents, students, faculty, emergency responders and others.



## Challenges You Might Be Facing

- **Keeping kids safe and parents updated is a priority.**  
In today's world, schools can't risk delays in immediately notifying faculty, staff and parents about emergency situations and lockdowns.
- **Parents want to reach teachers and administrators easily.**  
That's more difficult when faculty and staff move from classroom to classroom throughout the day. And in an age of growing privacy concerns, educators shouldn't be expected to hand out their personal phone numbers.
- **There's little wiggle room in the budget.**  
Even with a woefully inadequate telecommunications system, it's difficult to win funding for infrastructure investments.

## 5 Questions You Should Ask

1. **What are the procurement and financing options?**  
Do you offer purchasing avenues that can help keep the project moving forward?
2. **What is the total cost of ownership?**  
Is it low enough so taxpayers will support it and your district management won't balk?
3. **How many school district clients do you serve?**  
How do they compare in size and scope?
4. **Do you offer an on-site, cloud or hybrid solution?**  
Does it offer a migration path to the cloud?
5. **How adaptable is your system?**  
Does it offer mobility? Is it easy to use and manage?

## How the Right Communications Can Drive Results



### Simplify adherence to state mandates

School districts should be proactive about enhancing public safety initiatives, and your communications technology's built-in security features must integrate easily with other emergency response applications to enhance your public safety policy.



### Provide tools that are easy to use

Your solution should be powerful without sacrificing usability. Managing school communications should be as simple as possible, even when you include features like embedded emergency notifications, BYOD support, system directory and G Suite integration.



### Support flexibility and growth

Your communications platform must be future-proof, even if you're not quite ready to move to the cloud. You should be able to implement on-site communications and migrate to hybrid or cloud applications when you're ready.



### Save time and IT resources

The system should be easy to install and administer, reducing the impact on IT teams and enabling administrators to make changes in minutes, rather than weeks.

"Of all the bond projects going on right now, the Mitel implementation has been [showcased] as on budget and ahead of schedule. As a result, we've received favorable praise from our school board and our community."

Steven Langford, CIO, Beaverton School District

