



School Dismissal Management through RightSpot



In Collaboration with

WEEHAWKEN SCHOOL DISTRICT



About Weehawken School District:

The Weehawken School District is a comprehensive community public school district consisting of three schools serving around 1.5k students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade from the Township of Weehawken, in Hudson County, New Jersey, United States.

The Need for Dismissal Management System

Management of transportation facilities in particular, can be extremely chaotic due to the high frequency with which variations occur in everyday transit. Mismanagement, miscommunication or lack of communication in this area results in liabilities far too difficult for schools to face.

Weehawken discovered the need for a reliable system that organizes and streamlines its dismissal process when a 5-year-old student was accidentally dropped off in an unknown location. The child was not even supposed to be on the bus.

Such frightful errors in dismissal management often result from several problems entangled with each other.

The Problems

1. Lack of clear communication between the school and transportation staff
2. Absence of a coherent system that acknowledges and stores updated information when variations in a student's pick-up/ dismissal are communicated by a parent
3. Failure in relaying communication on variations to the transportation staff
4. Oversight of students schedules pertaining to after-school programs at the time of dismissal
5. High volume of unanswered calls from parents as they worry about their childrens' whereabouts
6. Disparate school systems that do not integrate with each other resulting in constantly missed communication

WHAT MEASURES CAN SCHOOLS TAKE TO ENSURE STUDENTS' SAFETY WHEN IN TRANSIT?

The Solution

With the report of the misplaced student, Weehawken understood that it was time for intervention and it needed a reliable system that could bring all the loose ends of dismissal management together. RightSpot was implemented in the Weehawken School District in response to issues every public school fears – losing the trust of parents and the inability of safeguarding their students.

RightSpot is a solution created by parents and teachers that goes above and beyond to ensure student safety through efficient dismissal management. Weehawken introduced RightSpot to establish a coherent system of pickup/dismissal management in the following ways:

1. For School Administrators & Staff:

- a. Dashboard that allows access to all important dismissal metrics at-a-glance
- b. Ability to easily add variations. Rosters get dynamically updated without any additional interference and avoiding the possibility of miscommunication.

2. For Bus Drivers & Aides:

- a. The Driver App provides clear information to the drivers on the number of students on-board, accurate bus routes and drop locations, variations in the roster for the day, and the ability to add last-minute changes
- b. Bus aides can manage student check-in/out with ease. Students can check themselves in and out of the bus too with NFC & RFID Card Readers.

3. For Parents:

- a. Through the RightSpot Parent app, parents are always informed of their child's whereabouts and ETA while they're in transit.
- b. Parents can authorize select adults through the app who they can delegate the student's pick-up to, in their absence.

Transition into a Digital World:

RightSpot extends the school's SIS system functionality to handle variations. Common variations such as students being absent are dynamically updated. Additional variations such as after-school programs, sudden pick-ups, etc. and other exceptions can be added through an easy-to-use platform

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"RightSpot has allowed us to dramatically simplify the management of our after school and transportation programs. "

Eric Ecrespo

Superintendent
Weehawken School District

The Result

1. Zero errors in dismissal management
2. Improved efficiency in transportation management for students involved in after-school programs
3. Reduced call volume from parents to inquire their child's bus route details and whereabouts
4. Improved clarity for drivers and bus staff about students on-board
5. Increased Accountability for each student with minimal effort
6. Digitized Dismissal Management System that eliminated the need for post-it notes and other temporary variation management devices that take up space.

Driving a reliable, sustainable, and scalable system

RightSpot definitely tends to the immediate fears and errors that occur in dismissal management, but there is clearly more to the picture than that.

RightSpot handles variations at a higher scale and tends to the uncertainty that schools not only experience but are pushed to deal with at short notice. With the help of RightSpot, Weehawken School District could navigate uncharted waters thoroughly.

Through the regular changes and retirements in staff, RightSpot enabled Weehawken to depend on the system that was efficiently planned. Variations at a larger scale didn't adversely affect the transportation and dismissal management as a secure blueprint was always in place.

As schools transitioned back to school post-COVID, RightSpot aided Weehawken meticulously to ensure safe transportation for students by keeping all protocols in check. RightSpot's features enabled social distancing and contact tracing, which swiftly moved the transition forward. Unsafe transportation can stand as an obstacle to education that provides opportunities to elevate a child's future. At RightSpot, our ultimate goal is always to ensure the child's safety. Built with that in mind, we leverage the best of technology to build reliable systems that can easily be understood and get familiar with, in one go.

Step into a stronger future with RightSpot.

