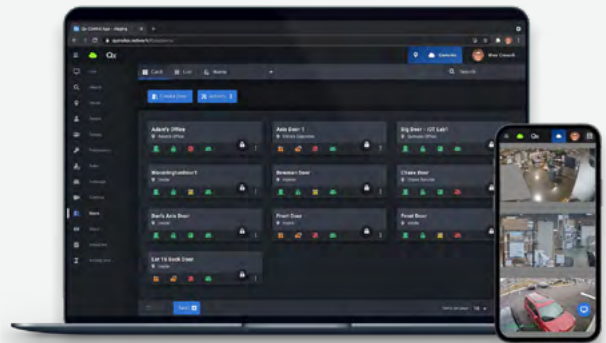




EXPANDING SCHOOL SAFETY

Deploying security with a growing private school in the heartland.



THE SCENARIO

Christian Life Academy (CLA) is a private school located in the Village of Hopedale, Illinois—a small community about 25 miles south of Peoria. The school was started in 2008 when the local elementary school in Hopedale closed its doors. There was a vision to create a new private school to support the wider community and a building was available for rent. CLA strives to be a truly affordable private school option for parents looking for an alternative to public school and to support the homeschooling community looking to get their children more involved with other students and activities. In 2023, the school expanded their footprint by adding a new high school building to support their growing student population.

THE NEED

The leaders of CLA were at a crossroads. The growth of the school necessitated an expansion, which also required more physical security needs. Additional cameras and access control solutions were needed in the new space. The school looked at their installed systems and contacted Jared Smith of Infinite Systems, a commercial and residential security systems integrator based in Peoria. The veteran-owned company provides a variety of security, IT and A/V solutions for commercial and residential customers throughout the Midwest.

Upon sitting down and talking with them it was clear that their existing systems were functional but not ideal. While they had an access control system in place, there was no way to centrally control and manage all of their doors and locks if there was a serious issue. Furthermore, the access control system was completely separate from their video surveillance system. Bringing these two systems together was not thought to be possible before, let alone efficient and easy to use. It was also important for the CLA team to find a solution that did not utilize proprietary equipment. They wanted to make the best use of their existing hardware and architecture while moving to a more powerful solution that could also grow with their continued expansion.

Jared Smith had pressure-tested the Qumulex solution and felt good about recommending it for CLA. Like many others in the industry, he was aware of the company founders' reputation for creating industry-leading solutions for physical security. In addition to finding a truly unified solution for both access control and video surveillance, the school was also looking for a US-based product with local and fast access to top-notch customer support when needed. The Qumulex installation was chosen by CLA and they were ready to move forward.



Unified System-

They wanted both access control and video surveillance to work together seamlessly.



Additional Cameras-

The customer needed additional cameras integrated into the system.



Access Control-

They needed the ability to centrally control doors and locks in the event of an emergency.



THE SOLUTION

As the Infinite Solutions team had to wait on the completion of the new high school building, installation of the system was delayed. However, the process normally takes six to seven working days to complete. Jared Smith completed the installation along with help from his partner, Dave Little and Jared's son, who is learning the business.

Jared highly recommends the Qumulex solution to both prospective customers and other security integrators. "This particular undertaking was pretty significant as it required a new system to be installed along with additional cameras and access control hardware to support the expanded school campus," notes Smith. "I love the fact that the Qumulex team bends over backwards to help. We felt support throughout the entire process—always getting the answers we needed to fully onboard the system for us."

"We love the fact that they have a unified solution for both of our buildings," said Josh Horning, Principal of Christian Life Academy. "The Qumulex video surveillance platform instantly proved to be faster, more convenient and more powerful than our previous system and our staff appreciates having so many options to search for video, even across multiple cameras in different buildings. The video is very easy to export to the police or other authorities as needed."

The access control portion of Qumulex provides more options than just standard key fob or PIN access. Mercury boards (Qumulex Enterprise Panels) were installed in each of the facilities, along with Farpointe readers for the doors. School personnel are able to quickly add and delete new individuals on the platform. They also receive alerts on their mobile devices and can lock down any and all of the doors within seconds. "We also appreciate the fact that Qumulex has a one-time license fee and that we don't have to use proprietary cameras," shares Smith. "CLA was able to seamlessly utilize their existing 8 cameras while adding 11 new cameras for additional coverage. Qumulex makes it easy to grow the system with additional cameras and access control hardware. They will be using this system for many years to come. I have a happy customer who feels really good about the safety of his students and faculty."

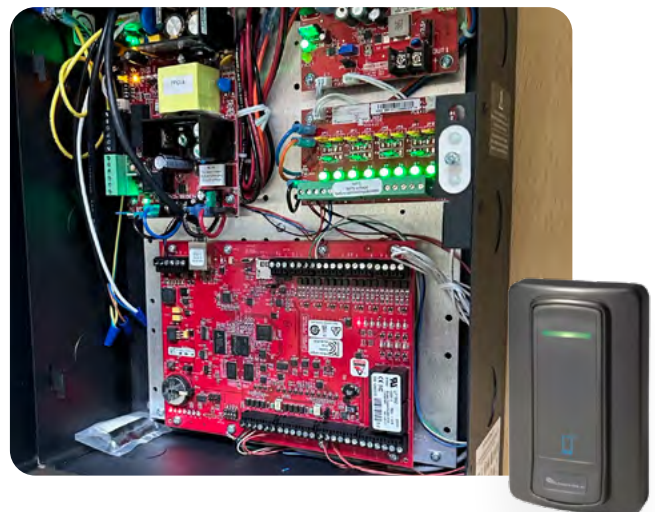
The impact on the school's operations was positive, leading to improved security and streamlined operations.

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