

Madison Metropolitan School District

The Madison Metropolitan School District is the second largest in the state of Wisconsin, serving about 25,000 students at 45 schools. The mission of the Madison Metropolitan School District, a community based educational partnership for children, is to assure academic success for every student in its elementary and secondary programs, and the district has been consistently ranked as one of the best in the country.



Madison Metropolitan School District selects an Alcatel phone system

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Doug Pearson

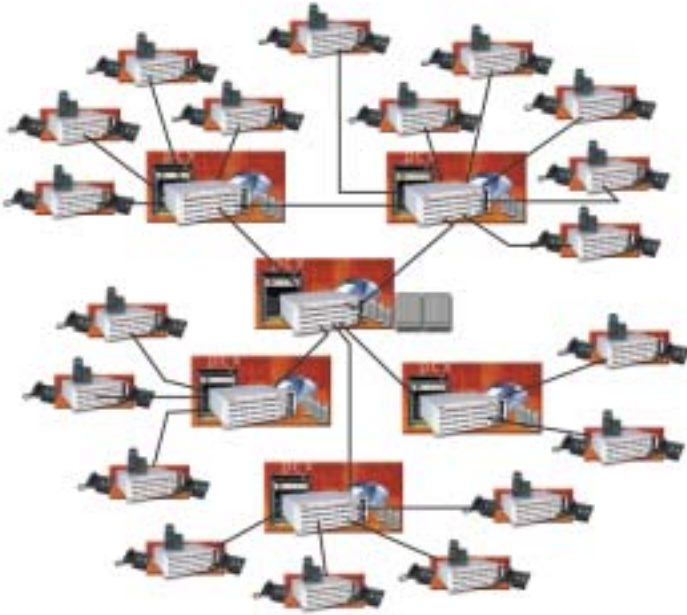
Director of Building Services
Madison Metropolitan School District

When an outdated phone system threatened the efficiency and safety of the school district, they elected to work with Alcatel to upgrade. They chose the Alcatel OmniPCX 4400 because it is the world’s most advanced IP-based voice communications system and could take them to the next level of technology for their schools.

A cost saving, flexible solution

Doug Pearson, director of building services at Madison Metropolitan School District explained, “The old phone system was an archaic set up of Centrex lines that had us paying fees on individual copper lines. Going with the Alcatel OmniPCX 4400 has been a real cost saving method. It has allowed us to put a phone in every classroom with emergency call out capabilities as well as voicemail for every teacher. This was one of our number one priorities. Now we can implement programs like the homework hotline. In the past we didn’t have that capability, but now parents can call in and find out the assignments for the day.”

How did the district come to select Alcatel? Pearson said, “One of the primary reasons we went with Alcatel was that they could provide us with flexibility as the district continues to grow, plus their ability to migrate us to IP technology when we’re ready. The simplicity of switching out the current PBX technology to an IP environment was a must. We had to get rid of the old analog lines. Everything is digital now.”



Madison Metropolitan School District, located in Madison, Wisconsin, utilized Alcatel Internetworking equipment to deploy a converged OmniPCX 4400 voice network across the district. The system utilizes centralized voicemail, direct inward dialing, attendants, and E-911

Their OmniPCX 4400 network consists of two primary backbones that tie all of the 44 remote schools into a double star topology that is interconnected by 300 voice channels, allowing traffic to traverse the network from one remote node to another. There are 15 PRI (primary rate interface) circuits for inbound and outbound external network access. The network has two centralized voice mail systems, each with 500 hours of storage support for 15,000 mailboxes. Madison schools utilize the Premium, Advanced and Easy Reflexes phones. The Reflexes collection makes access to OmniPCX 4400 communication features easy and straightforward. The phones are exceptionally functional and comfortable to use and adapt to meet a wide range of business needs.

What would Pearson say to someone considering Alcatel for a PBX network? Pearson said, "They are an excellent company, and we have had great success with them."

Alcatel

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