



# RAVE Panic Button Application

WCPSS Office of Security

*February 27, 2024*



**WAKE COUNTY**  
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

# Agenda

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- RAVE Panic Button Application (Juan Cuartas, Director of Special Operations, Office of Security)
  - Problem Statement
  - Research and Benchmarking
  - Product Description and Facts
  - Pilot Concept and Next Steps



# RAVE Panic Button Application



# Problem Statement

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In reviews of several emergencies within our district, it has become clear that there are areas for improvement within our current processes to make them more efficient.

Two identified areas are:

1. The need for a faster mass notification of an emergency within a building
1. The need to communicate with staff during an emergency (status updates)



# Research and Benchmarking

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- In 2015, the North Carolina General Assembly established the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS).
- One of their five directives was to identify a **Digital Panic Alarm Application**.
- In 2017 NC Emergency Management (NCEM) was tasked with performing a proof of concept.
  - NCEM met with school officials, 911 centers, first responders, SROs, and emergency managers.
  - NCEM developed a list of 12 key functional requirements.
  - NCEM developed an RFI and selected RAVE Mobile Security as the vendor that met most of these requirements.

# Research and Benchmarking

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- In 2018, NCEM performed a proof-of-concept test by selecting 17 schools across the state to test RAVE's panic button application and recommended a 2-year statewide implementation plan.
- Apex Friendship High School was part of this initial pilot in 2018.
  - Medical and Active Assailant scenarios tested
  - Staff assist, notifications, 911 and other features tested as well

# Funding for Implementation

<b>Implementation Tasks</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Statewide Implementation of Rave Panic Alarm Solution in all K-12 Schools*	\$3,986,475
Statewide Implementation of Rave Panic Alarm Solution in all Charter Schools*	\$276,000
Rave Panic Alarm Solution Integration into SERA	\$200,000
Project Management	\$220,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,682,475</b>
Estimated Cost per District	\$40,500
Estimated Cost per School	\$2,017
Estimated Cost Per Student	\$3.25

# Research and Benchmarking

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In 2023, the WCPSS Office of Security reviewed and evaluated the application. We then performed a benchmark study to determine its potential use as part of our Security and Emergency Response program.



- This study included four separate school districts and focused on over 20 different features/criteria.
- After benchmarking with these school districts, our team determined RAVE provided several benefits, including:
  - Direct communication with on-site resources (SRO, principals, custodians, APs), district resources (Command Center), and public safety agencies (911 centers, police, EMS, fire);
  - Geofencing capabilities that help locate the exact location of the emergency and facilitate response;
  - Interconnectivity features allow staff to activate a lock down and deploy resources in less than 2 seconds;
  - Statewide use and sponsorship that could allow WCPSS to implement this tool at no cost;
  - Existing partnerships with other state programs such as SERA, SRMP, and DPI; and
  - Set up and implementation assistance from RAVE representatives to onboard our schools and staff.

# Product Description and Facts

## KEY FEATURES



### NOTIFY KEY PERSONNEL

Key on-site personnel are notified of an emergency immediately when a Panic Call is made to 9-1-1. These users will continue to be notified with situational updates in real time so that they can take appropriate action.



### CRITICAL DATA TO 9-1-1

Immediately, 9-1-1 receives critical data about the campus from which a Panic Call is placed – key situational items like caller location, building floor plans, campus contacts and access info – and is given the ability to rapidly message campus employees and first responders.



### EMERGENCY CALL BUTTONS

A call from the Rave Panic Button app notifies designated on-site personnel and 9-1-1 of the emergency based on the caller's location and emergency type. 9-1-1 will receive both the emergency type and critical emergency information about the campus, such as floor plans.



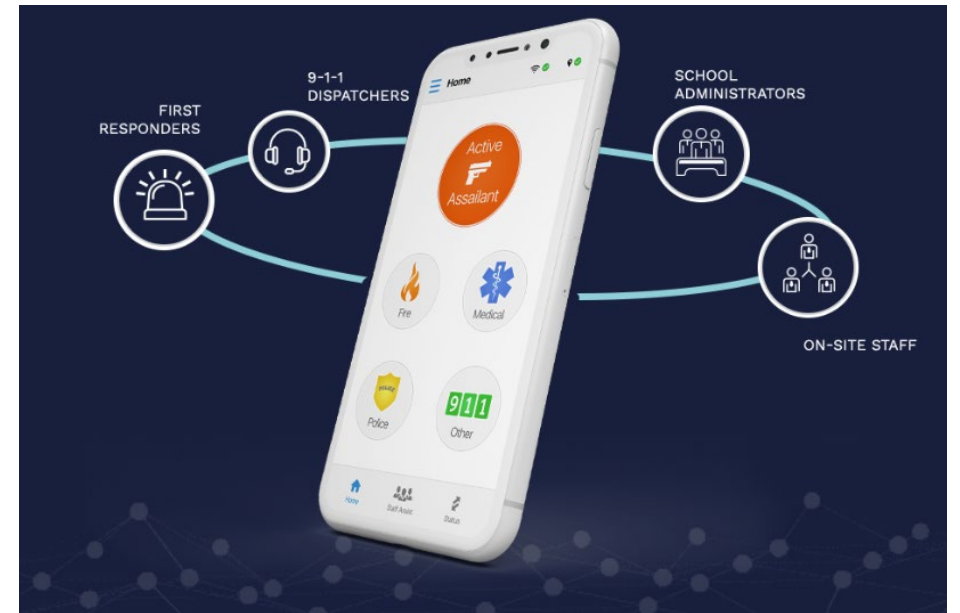
### STAFF ASSIST

Used often for non-emergency internal communications, authorized employees and on-site groups can quickly communicate without initiating an emergency call to 9-1-1. Internal groups and message templates are predetermined to enable fast communication and reduce the duration of disruptions.

# Product Description and Facts

## RAVE Panic Button

- Allows for quick activation of emergency response efforts
- Used by teachers and staff only, not students
- Provides features to help staff communicate internally and externally during day-to-day operations
- Allows for Emergency Operation Plans, evacuation routes, floor plans, and other critical information to be uploaded and made available to staff and first responders during an emergency
- Geofencing and GPS features allows first responders to locate staff and be aware of the status during an emergency



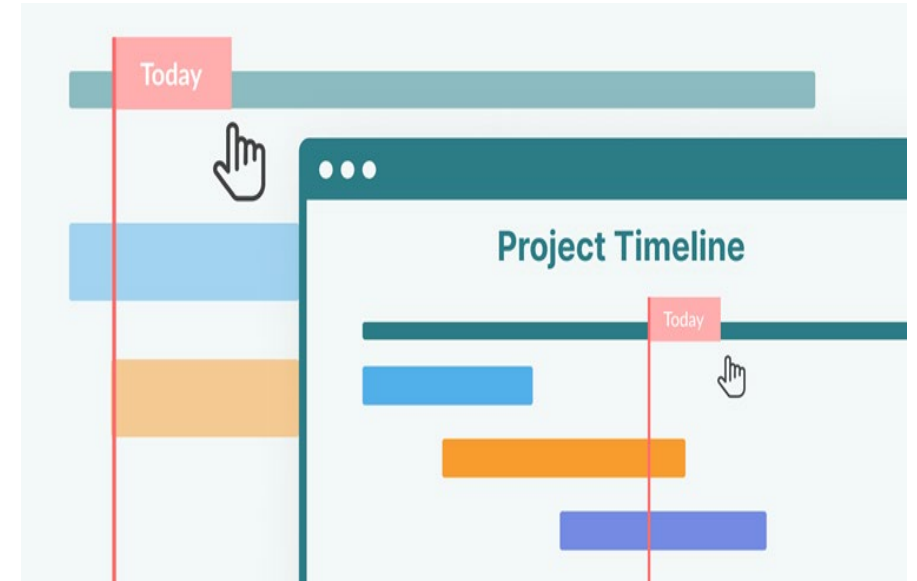
[RAVE Overview Video](#)

# Pilot Concept

The Office of Security proposes to conduct a pilot of the RAVE application in 28 of our schools.

## Action Steps

- Create a list of 28 schools that is representative of elementary, middle and high selected with a random number generator.
- Ask Area Superintendents to review this list for final revisions.
- Provide the list to the vendor to begin pilot development.
- Implement communications plan to inform selected schools about the upcoming pilot.
- Develop and implement training sessions for staff at those schools.
- Implement pilot in the last academic quarter of the traditional calendar.
- Evaluate pilot results and collect feedback.
- Propose recommendations and key next steps.



# Dialogue

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