

Lindale Independent School District Signs On to FirstNet – America's Public Safety Communications Platform

New Technology allows district to better serve students and staff

LINDALE, TX, January 27, 2020 — Lindale Independent School District is pleased to announce it is connecting LISD Police, Maintenance and Transportation Departments to FirstNet® — a new communications platform just for public safety. With this tech advancement, LISD has equipped our police officers and auxiliary departments across the district's multiple schools with new capabilities and reliable access to critical information while in the field. This allows LISD to have clear lines of communication for a more effective response in the event of a crisis.

FirstNet is designed to improve communications across public safety entities nationwide, allowing first responders to easily and quickly communicate with one another during everyday situations, large-scale events or emergencies. This is integral to solving for the common roadblock that communications issues have imposed on past public safety responses.

Lindale ISD transports nearly 2,000 students twice a day in a district that covers 185 square miles. The LISD transportation fleet drives over 1,900 miles daily. The live GPS function associated with the FirstNet devices provides staff with near real-time locations of every bus on the road, helping to provide an added layer of safety and security.

"Each day, we are entrusted with the safety and security of our nearly 4,250 students and hundreds of faculty and staff members," said Jamie Holder, Deputy Superintendent at Lindale Independent School District. "The ability to have instant communication during times of emergency or during weather-related incidents is crucial. Being connected with FirstNet gives us a level of comfort and confidence knowing that we can effectively communicate from any location within our district and share information with first responders in a time of need.."

FirstNet is built with <u>AT&T</u> in public-private partnership with the <u>First Responder Network</u> <u>Authority</u> (FirstNet Authority). It's designed with and for public safety.

"We're honored that Lindale Independent School District chose FirstNet to elevate their communications capabilities," said Stacy Schwartz, vice president, AT&T Public Safety and FirstNet "It's our mission to give first responders the cutting-edge tools they need to safely and effectively achieve their mission. FirstNet will help first responders in Lindale, Texas and across

the country perform at the highest levels to keep themselves and those they serve out of harm's way."

"FirstNet is the exclusive communications platform being built with AT&T for public safety, inspired by public safety. There is no substitution for this dedicated network," said Jeff Bratcher, Chief Technology and Operations Officer, FirstNet Authority. "We look forward to supporting Lindale Independent School District and all of Texas' public safety community with FirstNet, making sure it delivers what they need, when they need it."

To learn more about Lindale Independent School District, visit http://www.lindaleeagles.org.

To learn more about FirstNet, go to <u>FirstNet.com</u>. To learn more about subscribing to FirstNet, contact Allen Webb at 469-818-0952 or lw107c@att.com. Individual first responders can subscribe to FirstNet at a local AT&T store.

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