



Magnolia Middle School Kent County, Delaware

Caesar Rodney School District was growing at an extremely fast pace and needed a building to house students from other overcrowded middle schools. They acquired an old catholic high school and turned it into a third middle school to relieve the pressure from the others. Security and door control were extremely relaxed and needed to be upgraded to meet district standards.

Advantech worked with the district to upgrade the existing systems (video surveillance, access control, intrusion detection and fire alarm), but there was still a lingering challenge: once a visitor was vetted through video intercom and allowed in the front door, they would have access to the entire school. This was different from the other schools in the district where they had secured vestibules, meaning the visitor would be funneled into the office for further processing of why they were there. The district wanted a solution that would allow teachers to enter the building and badge through without adding foot traffic in the office, while keeping the school safe and forcing visitors to enter the office before having full access to the school.

The district worked with Advantech and HC Quality Doors on previous projects to replace historical doors and add doors here and there, but nothing of this magnitude. Levi Lantz of HC Quality Doors met with Jimmy Pennewell, Supervisor of Facilities Management for Caesar Rodney School District to produce a design of the large space and provide a solution for the challenges the district faced.

Through a few site visits and design meetings, the idea of bullet resistant glass being added on the wall by the office entrance was discussed as well as including the glass in the bank of doors (pictured below), being installed to create a secure vestibule. At the end of the last site visit, the district was extremely interested in the combined solutions Advantech and HC Quality Doors could provide. Upon approval from the school district, Levi and members of his team (Colin Allgyer and Joel DeLong) came down to discuss the final project plan slated for completion over Christmas Break.

During the break, the team came down and got to work! Advantech collaborated with HC Quality while they were putting in the frames and glass to get the school's access control cables installed and in place. The customer couldn't be happier with how it turned out, and with one phone call was able to solve something that would usually take three or more contractors to coordinate.

Ryne Johnson & Levi Lantz

Advantech

HC Quality Doors

