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10 CA Schools Automate Parental Notification

by Dave Nagel

Ten districts in California have signed on with TeleParent and plan to have the parental notification system up and running by the start of the school year. The deployment impacts schools representing about 200,000 students, including a large number of multi-lingual students.

The districts signing on with teleParent include Garden Grove USD, Temecula Valley USD, Anaheim Union HSD, Montebello USD, Colton Joint USD, Robla ESD, Bonita USD, East Side Union HSD, and Santa Ana USD. A principal at one of the schools in Garden Grove USD, Colleen Cross, of Garden Grove High School, said that one of the critical considerations in the choice of alert systems was support for non-native English speakers.

"We see this new system from TeleParent as a tool to help us reach out more effectively to all of our families in the district, but with over 60 percent of our student population speaking English as a second language, we needed a system that eliminates the communication barriers that often exist between our teachers and parents," she said.

TeleParent employs translators who will pre-record more than 700 messages in 22 languages. The messages fall into the categories of attendance, grades, general information, "positive reinforcement," and, of course, "corrective action" (AKA trouble).

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About the author: David Nagel is the executive editor for 1105 Media's online education technology publications, including THE Journal and Campus Technology. He can be reached at dnagel@1105media.com.

Proposals for articles and tips for news stories, as well as questions and comments about this publication, should be submitted to David Nagel, executive editor, at dnagel@1105media.com.

