



AoA Security Cameras

Use of Security Cameras Update

Cameras were installed in March, 2022. Since then, we have utilized them in the following ways:

- Security cameras have been used (by designated personnel) to try to identify two people who stole two bikes from our bike racks located on the side of the school.
- Security cameras have been used to view an onsite altercation between two students in order to corroborate witness statements.
- There was an assault that took place off campus that did not involve AoA personnel/students. An APD officer came by to see if we had cameras and if so, has asked if they could review footage. We let them record the footage that we had specific to the incident. The assault was out of site of our cameras, but the camera captured events that led up the incident.
- **Main purpose of security cameras:** Designated personnel use cameras to aid investigations when needed. We will not include recorded footage in our students' records. Security cameras have not and will not be used as a "live" monitoring tool by administrators.

AoA Administrative Guidelines

- AoA camera footage will only be accessible by the Executive Director, Principals, Dean of Students (both school programs), and the Director of Operations.
- Video footage will only be accessed in the event an incident needs to be investigated. There will be no live monitoring of feeds unless triggered by an alert (crowd notification or potential vandal incident).
- In an event where video footage is being used in part of an investigation, face blurring feature will be used when possible to remove incidental students.
- Video footage will only be archived if part of an ongoing investigation.
- Video footage will not be included in a student's permanent records.

On Campus Video Cameras

A study performed by the National Center for Education Statistics in 2016 showed that 73.2% of elementary schools, 88.6% of middle schools, and 94.2% of high schools employed security cameras in varying degrees.

AUSD Currently has systems in place with the same vendor at Alameda High, Encinal Jr/Sr High, Paden, and Otis. There are future plans for implementation at Wood, Lincoln, Haight, and Bayfarm.

Video Cameras - Use Cases

- Secure campus - Decrease vandalism or dangerous behaviors on campus with proactive alerts.
- Incident Investigation - Ability to use footage to investigate an incident on campus.
- Person of Interest - Keep an eye out for unauthorized personnel on campus
- Crowd Notifications - Get notifications when crowds are forming in areas that may indicate a physical altercation
- Contact Tracing - Can be used for COVID contact tracing during lunch or break.

Verkada Security and Privacy Features

- Video data is stored for 30 days using AES-128 Encryption.
- All video feeds are encrypted in transit using AES-128 Encryption.
- Archived data, user history, and audit logs are stored using AES-256 Encryption
- Firmware and software updates happen automatically and securely.
- Two-Factor authentication is used to access the cloud platform.
- Customizable permissions for end users based on roles and responsibilities.
- Face blurring functionality is available to protect student privacy.

Hardware Warranty and Protection

- All camera hardware has a 10 year product warranty.
- Products are IK10 Vandal Resistant - the highest rated protection for electronic enclosures against external impact
- Internal hardware accelerometers will notify users during an impact event.
- In-house support team can resolve 95% of issues remotely, and will next day air replacement parts when necessary.

AoA Board Approved Video Camera Policy

- The Board approved the [Campus and Student Safety Search Policy](#) on 10/28/21.
- With regards to device locations, the approved policy states:

AoA may utilize video surveillance devices in all common areas of the school campus including, but not limited to, outdoor spaces, entrances and exits, parking lots, stairwells, hallways, classrooms, the main office, school buses, and any other commonly used spaces. AoA shall not utilize video surveillance devices in private spaces such as restrooms and locker rooms. AoA intent and purpose in utilizing video surveillance devices is to ensure student and staff health, welfare, and safety in order to maintain safe and orderly conduct throughout the school day.

AoA Board Approved Video Surveillance Policy

- With regard to student records, the approved policy states:

Video surveillance recordings are not considered student education records unless the recording is maintained and (1) intended for use in a disciplinary action or proceeding, (2) depicts an activity that shows a student violating the law, (3) shows a student getting injured, attacked, victimized, ill, or having a health emergency, (4) contains personally identifiable information from a student's educational record. A video surveillance recording is not considered a student's education record when the student's image is incidental to the activity shown in the recording or when the student is participating in a public activity.

