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## Bridgeway Solutions Provides New Security Measures for 2<sup>nd</sup> Largest NC Public School System

Immediately preceding the 2013/2014 academic year, Bridgeway Solutions, Inc. installed identification systems at 160 campuses in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system. The project included loading DATACARD's WebID software at each location and hardware installation for 81 DATACARD CD800 card printers, 79 DATACARD SP25 Plus card printers, 40 zoom cameras and 120 webcams.

Currently used to connect with food services and as traditional visual ID badges, the systems are expandable to incorporate other security and tracking solutions such as Learning Resources checkout, event tracking, off-campus trips and attendance.

Each badge carries two barcodes: a standard barcode containing the student's school identification number and a second PDF417 barcode that enables the CMS badges to integrate with North Carolina Emergency Management's incident command solution, Salamander. It is this second barcode that is a giant leap forward in student identification.

In an emergency situation, badges can be quickly scanned using handheld devices to activate the student's personal information in the State's incident command resource manager. Using Salamander's resourceMGR Web and COMMAND systems, the students can be tracked and accounted for during an emergency situation including lockdown or evacuation. The Salamander solution also provides extensive, live reporting capabilities.

### New school year brings more security to CMS

The following is an excerpt from an article published on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2013 in the *Charlotte Observer* by Steve Lyttle.

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Mecklenburg County commissioners last spring approved the extra funding to CMS for improved campus security, in the wake of deadly shootings in Connecticut and last year in Chardon, Ohio.

Some of the measures got a dry run last spring at James Martin Middle School in the University City area. On Wednesday, Martin Middle Principal Jeremy Batchelor said he was impressed at how well the system worked – specifically, the locked front door and buzzer system, and the student ID tags.

“The kids were really good,” Batchelor said. “A few of them didn't like their photos, and we had cases when the tags were lost. But we had a time each day when we made new tags.”

Batchelor said the tags help administrators determine who should and shouldn't be on campus.

He said parents also responded well to the increased entrance security measures. “I don't recall a single parent complaining,” he said. “They all seemed appreciative.”

**CMS worked with Bridgeway Solutions to produce the ID tags. The tags carry the individual schools' colors and mascots and include photos. They also can be used at cafeteria cashier stations, and CMS spokeswoman Tahira Stalberte said the cards eventually could be used to check out materials from media centers.**

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