



Canonsburg, PA – On August 1, 2011, the Canon McMillan School District Board of School Directors, with support from all emergency services from Canonsburg Borough, North Strabane Township and Cecil Township, accepted an offer from US Life Safety today for a complimentary Life-Counts® system for the entire school district. Local emergency services look forward to having immediate and secure online access to critical information currently only available in hardcopy format. Some of that critical information includes: building level contact information, floor plans and evacuation routes/procedures, location of AED units, and information specific to those who may require special assistance. The unique Life-Counts® system, which has also been implemented in ten FEMA facilities in Washington DC, Virginia and Maryland, will allow local emergency agencies to receive immediate emergency-related updates that are made available by the district's safety committee or any of the eleven school's Life-Counts safety administrators.

The Life-Counts® gift to the community by US Life Safety was triggered by some school incidents in the western Pennsylvania region since January of this year. Voicing their concerns for their own children's safety both Steve and Bonnie Burchesky, owners of US Life Safety, told the school board "We want to make a difference to better protect all children as well as our community."

Michael Daniels, Canon-McMillan's Substitute Superintendent said, "We are impressed with the online features of this program. Although our school district has shared in a longstanding collaboration with the local emergency response agencies from each of our three municipalities, we anticipate enhanced communication and increased efficiency with information-sharing in those critical moments of need. My initial impression is that it appears any school district may benefit from participation in this program."

Pennsylvania Senator Tim Solobay and Canonsburg VFD Chief, who has been an advocate of the Life-Counts® system since 2003, said "*When an emergency occurs one of the most important items we need is good information especially on the life threats that are present. Compound that when it is a school situation and the excitement factor can go through the roof. Life-Counts® brings workable, reliable information and assistance in any emergency situation.*"

Life-Counts® has been in place with the Canonsburg General Hospital for nearly four years. US Life Safety plans to expand the Life-Counts® network to any Washington County school district that is interested in improving emergency preparedness in cooperation with their local professional First Responders.