

5 Financial Problems Solved with the Use of Synchronized Clocks in Schools

A White Paper by The Sapling Company

Financial issues have become commonplace in today's educational system. Elementary, middle and high schools are consistently experiencing budget cuts due to problems such as costly maintenance and rising energy costs. For a school's administration, finding new ways to solve these problems has always proven to be a challenging task and many feel they have tried every possible solution. There is, however, one solution that many schools overlook to improving their financial situation: the school's clocks.

There is a misconception that clocks can only assist a school in providing the time, and this may be true when schools are using a clock system where clocks are run independently. Conversely, when schools implement the use of a synchronized clock system, the system is not limited to this one responsibility and many other tasks can be delegated from what was normally the job of the school's faculty. To enlighten school administrations, this paper will go through five key solutions a synchronized clock system from a leading manufacturer can provide to a school's financial situation, aside from just telling the time.

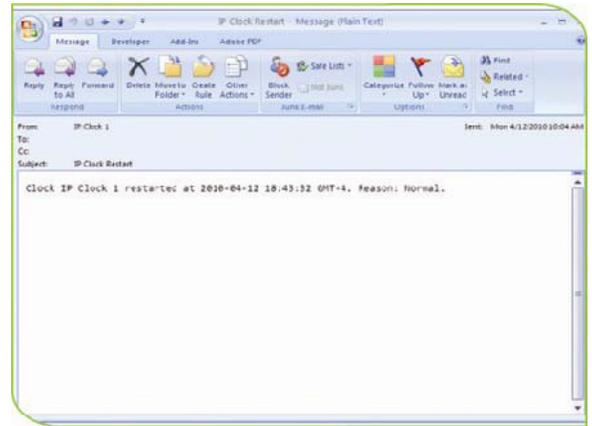
Cutting Maintenance Costs:

1. Automatic time adjustment for Daylight Saving Time
Two days out of the year have normally been dedicated to the time consuming task of manually adjusting all the clocks in a school for Daylight Saving Time. The faculty will waste valuable time going to each individual clock in the school and setting them to the appropriate hour. With the use of a synchronized system, clocks have the ability to automatically adjust in the event of Daylight Saving Time. The hours spent manually changing the clocks by school's faculty are converted into time spent doing more important things, thus improving the efficiency of the faculty and reducing maintenance costs.



2. Email notifications
When schools have independently run clocks, individually monitoring the condition of each and every clock is necessary to make sure everything is functioning properly. School faculty members must complete this inefficient task to make sure clocks are still running and aren't drifting off their accurate time. With the use of a synchronized clock system, performing this mundane task is no longer needed. Some synchronized clock systems feature email notification, where if the clocks experience any mechanical or electrical errors, an email is sent to administration to alert them of the problem. With this feature, the time consuming task of checking each individual clock in the facility for problems is eliminated, cutting maintenance time and saving the school money.

3. Automatic time correction in the event of a power outage
There are always major inconveniences imposed on schools in the event of a power outage. In a school that uses independently run clocks, one of these inconveniences is the chore of correcting each individual clock when the power returns to the building—just another time consuming task for the faculty. However, synchronized clocks can alleviate this problem with their automatic time correction feature. When the power supply returns to the school, the clocks will start receiving the time from their time source, whether it is an NTP server or a GPS satellite. With this feature, faculty members can dedicate this extra time managing all of the other problems that occur during power outages, quickly getting the school back to its normal state and allocating employee time more efficiently.



4. Cutting off power to lights and appliances
One costly measure of operating a school is the energy supply required to run lights, heating, air conditioning, fans, and basically all appliances that create a draw on the school's energy. In many cases, schools have rooms and buildings that draw on the energy even when they're not in use. This creates a great opportunity for the school's clock system to save the school in energy costs. A master clock has the ability to schedule when power sources should be cut to certain parts of a building. When a room or area is not in use, the clock system will turn off lights or cut off the air conditioning, reducing energy and therefore cutting the school's energy expenses.
5. Power savings
Another scheduling feature available with certain synchronized systems that can potentially save a school in energy costs is the option to control certain aspects of a clock. Digital clocks, for example, may not have to display a high brightness level to at all times of the day. IP synchronized clocks have the ability to dim the brightness level of digital clocks, which saves the school in unnecessary energy draw and reduces the school's energy bill.

Hopefully, this white paper has been helpful in dismissing any misconceptions of the ability of a school's clock system. School faculty and staff need to know that a clock system can offer much more than time display, particularly in a financial sense. With this information on the cost-cutting capabilities of a synchronized clock system, it is easy to see the degree of savings a school will have with installation. By accessing two of the main expenses of a school, maintenance and energy costs, a synchronized clock system will increase the efficiency of these two utilities and save significant amounts of money.

With the money saved from the use of the clock system, it can be reinvested in other school needs. When searching for a clock system provider, a school administration's best option is to turn to The Sapling Company. At Sapling, we have a variety of clock systems that can help solve these efficiency and cost issues.