Students can now access online resources, complete homework, and engage in educational activities during their commutes.

Ron Monroe Sidney City Schools Transportation Director



Sidney City Schools

### **CHALLENGE:**

The district sought to provide reliable internet on school buses to help students complete assignments and access educational resources during commutes. They also aimed to improve bus safety with better surveillance systems. These measures would bridge the digital divide, extend learning time, and enhance safety.

#### **SOLUTION:**

Sidney City Schools partnered with Premier Wireless Business Technology Solutions to equip their buses with Wi-Fi, transforming them into mobile classrooms. This initiative involved installing and setting up hardware to provide students with reliable internet access during their journeys. Additionally, Wi-Fi routers were linked to bus cameras to improve transportation safety.

#### **RESULTS:**

Premier's ConnectED Bus Wi-Fi installation at Sidney City Schools enabled students to access online resources, complete homework, and engage in educational activities during their bus commutes, yielding significant positive outcomes.

#### **PRODUCT:**

Premier Wireless' ConnectED Bus – Bus Wi-Fi solution provides the necessary infrastructure for high-speed internet connectivity, including routers and reliable service plans for mobile environments. These solutions are also integrated with bus camera systems to enhance safety measures.



Connecting Students on the Go: Sidney City Schools Provides Students with Improved Digital Access and Increased Safety on Their School Buses

# **RECOGNIZING THE CHALLENGE**

Sidney City Schools identified the need for improved internet access for students, particularly those who spend significant time commuting on school buses. The district recognized that without reliable Wi-Fi, students missed out on valuable opportunities to engage in online learning and efficiently complete their schoolwork. Additionally, enhancing bus safety was a critical priority.





## **RECOGNIZING THE CHALLENGE**

"If we ever have issues on the bus or the road, thanks to the Wi-Fi-enabled cameras, we can access a live or recorded feed and act on it a lot quicker than hearsay or a day later," said Sidney City Schools Transportation Director, Ron Monroe. The Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF), available during the COVID-19 pandemic, funded the project, which provided the necessary financial support to implement this essential technology. Today, E-Rate will provide the necessary funding to ensure long-term sustainability.

After implementing Premier's ConnectED Bus — Bus Wi-Fi solution on their school buses, Sidney City Schools saw immediate benefits. Students utilized the internet for research, homework, and accessing educational content, turning their commute time into an extension of their classroom learning. Connecting their bus cameras to real-time internet access improved school bus safety, providing real-time monitoring and ensuring a secure environment. The district received positive feedback from the community, highlighting the program's success in enhancing educational opportunities and supporting student achievement.

By partnering with Premier and leveraging federal funding, Sidney City Schools has taken a significant step toward ensuring all students have the resources they need to succeed, no matter where they are, while improving the safety and security of their school's transportation system.

**ABOUT PREMIER WIRELESS:** 

Premier Wireless a leading provider of technology solutions designed to enhance safety, drive innovation, improve communication, and facilitate transformation. Notably, our CPR<sup>3</sup> solution stands out as a purposedriven device specifically customized to deliver vital resources to individuals in critical situations.

For more information about Premier's technology solutions, don't hesitate to contact us at sales@pwbts.net; our dedicated team is ready to assist you.

The installation of Premier's ConnectED Bus— Bus Wi-Fi solution on Sidney City Schools' school buses has led to significant positive outcomes. Students can now access online resources, complete homework, and engage in educational activities during their commutes.

"Some of the students have over an hour's commute each way to their homes or games so it allows them to do homework during that time. The students, especially those on the sports teams who are out late at night, say they really like it. There have been lots of comments there about the usefulness and availability of it," said Monroe.

The availability of Wi-Fi transformed idle commuting time into productive study periods, helping students stay on top of their assignments. The district helped bridge the digital divide by providing internet access on buses, ensuring all students have equal opportunities to utilize digital learning tools. In addition, the ConnectED Bus – Bus Wi-Fi solution also enabled reliable surveillance capabilities contributing to the overall safety of students and bus drivers.



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Sidney City Schools Transportation Director



