

CASE STUDY

Pinecrest Academy Keeps Students Safe and Schools Open During COVID-19

How IPC Global's Campus Health Tracker helped a Georgia Catholic school achieve zero community transmission and 0% enrollment attrition during the pandemic

100%

Graduation Rate

21

Sports Teams

0%

Enrollment Attrition

#1

Catholic HS in Georgia

ABOUT PINECREST ACADEMY

Established in 1993, Pinecrest Academy is a private PreK–12 college preparatory Catholic school in Forsyth County, Georgia — voted #1 Catholic high school in the state by Niche.com and best private school in Forsyth County seven years in a row. The school boasts a 100% graduation rate, 21 competitive sports teams, and is part of the RC Education network spanning 154 schools and universities across 18 countries worldwide.

THE CHALLENGE

In 2020, Pinecrest Academy made the decision to offer face-to-face learning supported by their 23-member COVID-19 Task Force. To do so safely, they needed a complete set of health protocols and a system to track infections on campus, manage quarantines, support remote learning transitions, and report regularly to the Department of Public Health.

The school initially used Google Sheets to manage this process. But as sports teams returned to campus in the summer and COVID-19 cases emerged, it quickly became clear that manual tracking would not scale when the full student body returned in the fall.

“Initially, during the summer, we did have some cases, and we were keeping track on Google Sheets but realized that as students and faculty came back on campus, that was going to be a daunting task to keep track of.”

— Missy Collins, School Nurse, Pinecrest Academy

Leadership recognized that without a scalable solution, health staff risked becoming overwhelmed — potentially threatening not just campus health, but the viability of their entire in-person learning

model.

THE SOLUTION: CAMPUS HEALTH TRACKER

IPC Global created an interactive Campus Health Tracker that integrates data from Pinecrest Academy's BlackBaud Student Information System (SIS), replacing all existing spreadsheets with automated tracking, tracing, and reporting functions. Built on Qlik Sense for data integration and visualizations, Vizlib for automation and database writeback, and AWS for secure cloud hosting, the solution is fully compliant with both FERPA and HIPAA requirements.

As soon as a student, faculty, or staff member is identified as having COVID-19 symptoms, they are immediately integrated into the tracker and visible to nursing staff. Health staff can manage individuals and groups through every stage — suspected cases, awaiting test results, confirmed outcomes, contact tracing, quarantine, and readmission — all within a single, continually refreshed application.

"It makes my job a lot easier; the hardest part is having to contact the parents to let them know their child has been exposed. It keeps down the workload on my end."

— Missy Collins, School Nurse, Pinecrest Academy

RESULTS

Pinecrest Academy achieved zero community transmission of COVID-19 on campus throughout the pandemic, kept their school population healthy, and successfully delivered high-quality in-person instruction — at a time when many other schools were unable to remain open.

The school's transparent, data-driven response built trust with families and contributed to a 0% attrition rate for new enrollments in the 2020–21 school year. New enrollments increased substantially for the 2021 school year as a direct result of the school's effective pandemic navigation.

"It built a level of trust very quickly, in that we knew what we were doing, we had a handle on it, and we could manage situations and make decisions quickly in real-time because we had that data..."

— Charlene Dougal, Assistant Head of School, Pinecrest Academy

Pinecrest Academy serves as a powerful example of how schools can combine the right technology, people, and processes to achieve extraordinary results — even in the most challenging environments.

TECHNOLOGY STACK

Qlik Sense | Vizlib | AWS | BlackBaud SIS | FERPA & HIPAA Compliant