

Smart Sensor Technology Is Keeping Single-Use Bathrooms in Schools Secure

School restrooms pose a unique security and health challenge in that there is an expectation of privacy within the restrooms, therefore security cameras and recording are not permitted which poses a significant security challenge for schools as they try and ramp up their security efforts. The shift of schools switching to single-use or gender-neutral restrooms further complicates the security of the school restrooms. This often leads to school restrooms being used for prohibited activities, such as loitering, bullying and aggression, unpermitted vaping, and even as extreme as drug usage and sexual activity. In one example affecting library restrooms, meth contamination forced three Denver, Colorado area libraries to close in a span of two months, as reported by the New York Post. In another example reported by the Washington Post, bathrooms in Montgomery County, Maryland schools have been deemed some of the most dangerous places in the schools due to drug usage, vaping, violence, and vandalism.

Single-use restrooms in schools are becoming prime real estate for students to vape, vandalize, and more due to the lack of monitoring and witnesses in these restrooms. Devices like the HALO Smart Sensor are designed to help keep all school bathrooms safe through Health, Safety, and Vaping detection. They are an effective and affordable solution, and their visible presence acts as a deterrent. The public and school officials now recognize the need to win back and preserve school bathrooms to be danger-free zones and the HALO Smart Sensor is here to help.

PROTECTS PRIVACY

Concerns are always present about putting any type of security device in an area of expected privacy. Public restrooms in general are an example of a public-use area where security devices are not implemented due to this apprehension. However, due to this expectation of privacy, these secluded areas are where unauthorized activities such as vaping, drug usage, loitering, and bullying happen, since perpetrators cannot be easily detected.

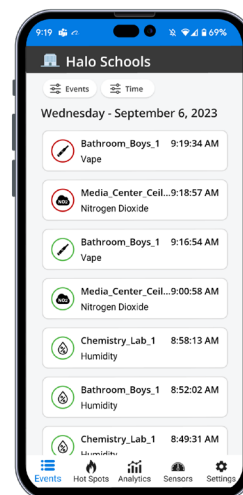


Smart sensor devices do not use video or audio recording to monitor an area. The device simply monitors the surroundings to ensure that occupants are not vaping, along with other forms of improper activity. Therefore, with the use of vaping detection devices, there is no infringement on privacy since they are not being watched by a video camera. This alleviates the concern of being visually monitored in an area of expected privacy. Stationing a smart sensor device in these areas would help schools be able to monitor and track down if any unauthorized activity such as vaping is being done in the bathrooms.



VAPE AND THC DETECTION

Students usually find discreet methods of sneaking in their daily vaping by going to areas that are easy to access and have no direct adult supervision – such as school bathrooms. Students can easily excuse themselves from class to go to the bathroom and use that opportunity to vape with no one looking. The implementation of single-use restrooms in schools only makes this much more convenient for students to vape on school property. Sensors such as the HALO Smart Sensor are a cost-effective and optimal solution for schools to detect when vape or THC is being consumed in restrooms. By quickly identifying marijuana and other drugs being used in the restroom, alongside data tracking and analysis, facilities can plan on how to address the problem safely and quickly. The HALO Smart Sensor is so advanced that it can detect when someone is trying to hide their vaping activity, such as spraying cologne or perfume or trying to cover the device. School personnel can get masking notifications and act accordingly.

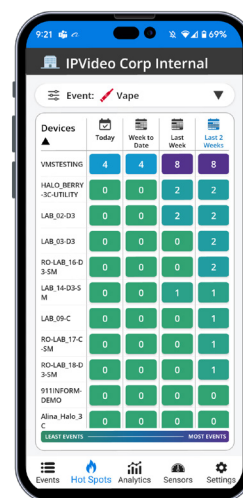


AGGRESSION DETECTION

A main challenge with school restrooms is the potential for aggression or violence. Places like restrooms are secluded and there is the expectation of privacy, which makes it the perfect area for a violent aggressor to act. Smart sensor devices have been used in school restrooms, for example, not only to monitor and curb vaping in restrooms but also to curb violence and bullying. With the HALO Smart Sensor, you can now detect loud sounds like yelling and cries for help with spoken keyword detection. This enhanced security makes it easier to eliminate disturbances and make the restroom a safe place.

MOTION AND OCCUPANCY DETECTION

Motion and occupancy detection can be used in single-use bathrooms in order to identify if suspicious activity is being conducted. The HALO Smart Sensor has a variety of safety readings, including occupancy and people counting, as well as motion, or lack of motion. These sensor readings could be used to monitor loitering, unauthorized activity, or health emergencies in the restrooms and allow building personnel to act swiftly and efficiently.



Students and staff in schools deserve to have safe public restrooms. Implementing security devices like the HALO Smart Sensor bridges the gap of having security monitoring in a restroom, without the need to record or take video. Contact us today to learn more about the HALO Smart Sensor.

