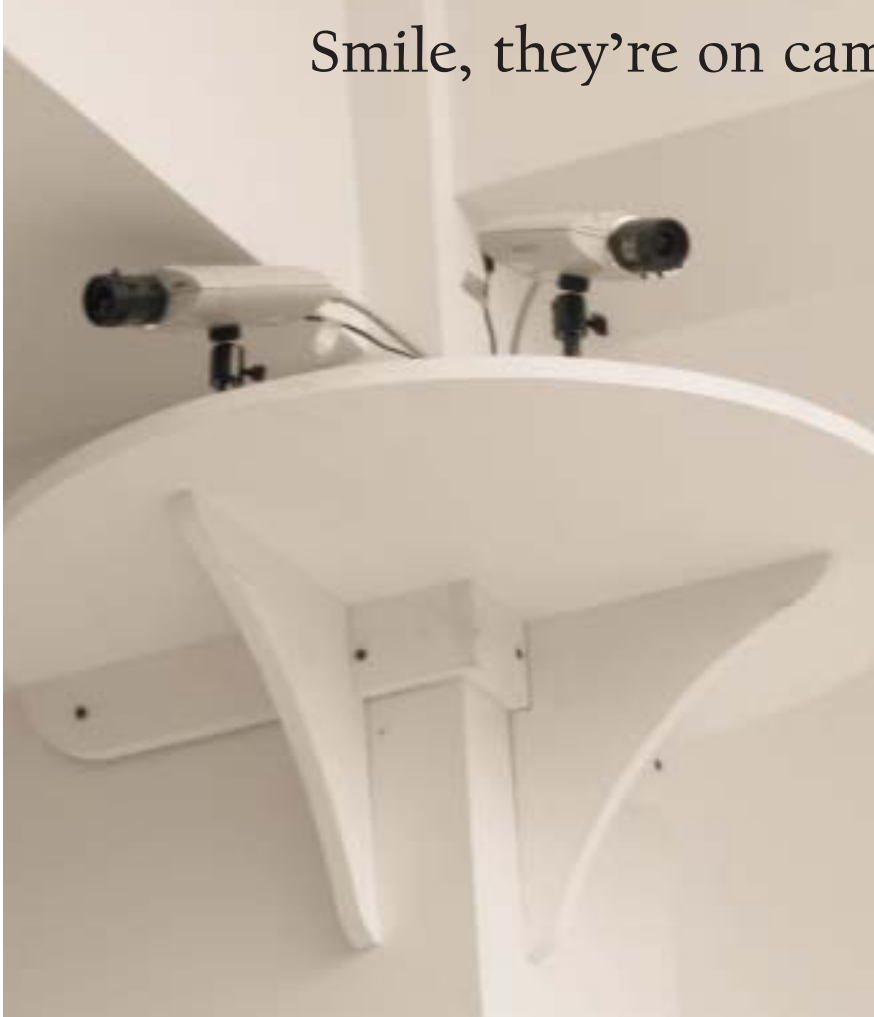


FutureSchools

Smile, they're on campus camera.



Dustin Wyatt, left, the Lebanon High School resource officer, and Mark Finch, an associate principal at the school, observe students through the surveillance system.

STRUGGLING TO OVERCOME A NASTY brew of low test scores, high absenteeism, bullying, and petty theft, Lebanon High School in Lebanon, Oregon, decided to get tough. Having already implemented a policy on paper to promote better behavior, the school backed it up with some high-tech muscle.

The school completed a \$12 million campus-wide renovation in September 2004 that included the installation of a scalable surveillance system complete with 25 cameras to monitor students' movement in entrances and hallways. The Axis network, purchased from CDW-G, can also be repositioned to other spaces where kids hang out.

Brian Bray, director of technology services for the district, built the system with off-the-shelf hardware and software and trained the school's resource officer, the on-site "cop in shop," to manage it. Faculty can also observe students passing in front of the cameras from any computer anywhere.

The system is only a few months old, and it's too early to determine the long-term impact on students' behavior. But according to Bray, not only have more students been discovered misbehaving or cutting class, but they are also confessing more quickly, thinking the cameras may have recorded their wrongdoings.

The goal, however, says Bray, "is not to get more notches on our holster by catching kids doing something wrong but to calm the school down and break the cycle of misbehavior."

—Jacqueline Heinze

Lebanon High School Lebanon, Oregon

Renovated: September 2004

Size: 170,158 square feet over four acres for a student body of 1,350

Cost: \$12 million, funded in part by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

What it is: This 9–12 high school in a semirural area restructured its campus into four smaller learning academies to combat behavior problems and strengthen academic achievement.

Architect: BOORA Architects, Portland, Oregon

Photos: Pizzi + Thompson