



Case Study | Affton School District, Missouri

Every Campus Ready. Every Sideline Covered.

27

Avive Connect AED®s

5

Campuses

2,500

Students

400

Staff

Affton School District is a tight-knit community in suburban St. Louis, MO. On any given day, its campuses serve students, staff, parents, volunteers, and visitors. Facilities are rented out often, and Friday nights draw crowds, so the number of lives on campus at any moment is far larger than enrollment alone suggests.

When the district decided to modernize its AED program, it didn't just replace devices. It standardized every campus with a rollout of 27 [Avive Connect AED®s](#), built a placement plan around a 3-minute response goal, and gave its nurses and athletic trainers a new way to stay ready without the manual work.

THE CHALLENGE:

A Patchwork Program That Put Time and People at Risk

Before Avive, Affton's AEDs had been bought one at a time as needs arose. The result was four or five different models in each building.

- **Inconsistent devices, inconsistent signage.** Some AEDs had signage and some didn't. What did exist varied from unit to unit.
- **Separate pads for adults and children.** Older models required a different set of pads for pediatric patients. In an emergency, a responder would have to work out which model they were holding and swap pads before delivering a shock.
- **A heavy manual maintenance load.** School nurses were responsible for monthly checks. That meant walking the halls, checking batteries, tracking pad expiration dates, and keeping logs, all while learning the different maintenance requirements of each device.
- **No portable option for athletics.** The district's athletic trainers covered 200+ athletes across practices, home games, off-campus matches, and middle school events. Without a truly portable AED, they relied on larger units stored in a shed, or on whatever the host school had, if anything.

THE SEARCH:

One Google Search, One Clear Choice

Adam Jasinski oversees Affton's technology infrastructure and its safety and security operations, and he is always looking for ways to use connectivity to solve operational problems. When the district's AEDs came due for replacement, he started with a simple search.

What he found was an AED that [connects](#) over Wi-Fi and cellular and reports its own health status automatically.

PLACEMENT PLANNING:

Mapping the Walk to 3 Minutes

Affton didn't place their 27 [Avive Connect AED®s](#) where there happened to be wall space. The district set a goal of reaching an AED within three minutes from anywhere on campus and built its plan around it.

- **Step 1:** Start with the big spaces. Adam and the nurses walked each building and prioritized large-occupancy areas such as cafeterias and auditoriums. They also covered common spaces where the public gathers, like the football field.
- **Step 2:** Study the floor plans. Using building maps, they asked how long it would take someone to walk to the nearest AED and where the next one should go.
- **Step 3:** Drill it. The nursing and administrative teams ran mini-drills, walking to the farthest corner of a field and to the corner classroom that's easy to overlook.

Affton's rollout focused on familiarity. The nursing team trained with Adam through hands-on sessions, instructional videos, and practice in Avive's [Training Mode](#). Swappable training pads let nurses demonstrate exactly how the unit they'll use in a real emergency works, with the device in hand.

Athletic trainers received a quick walkthrough from Adam covering how to power on, pull the pads, and respond. Both already had extensive AED experience, and the intuitive design meant they needed little else.



THE RESULTS:

What Changed for Each Team

- **For District Leadership: Visibility Without the Legwork**
Avive's REALConnect™ platform gives Adam and the district nurse coordinator a view of every AED in the district. Each building nurse can see the devices in their own building. Automated readiness checks and reporting replace manual walkthroughs and paper logs, so leadership can confirm that every AED is ready.
- **For School Nurses: Less Maintenance, More Confidence**
Nurses who used to walk the halls checking batteries and pads now have the same dashboard view as district leadership. One pad set also covers adults and children. Pulling the pads from the device replaces opening packages and choosing a size.
- **For Anyone Who Has to Use One: Simple by Design**
Older AEDs often look like intimidating medical equipment. Avive doesn't. Pull the tab at the top, and the device guides the responder with on-screen visuals and clear audio prompts. A dedicated Child Mode button removes any doubt about what to do for a younger patient. CPR instructions are built in for responders without formal training, and the device can speak in Spanish.
- **For Athletic Trainers: An AED That Goes Where They Go**
Becky Stigen has been Affton's athletic trainer for 18 years. She and her colleague cover 200+ athletes (along with coaches, parents, visitors, and staff who may be spectating). Now they each carry a portable Avive AED. Their coverage goes beyond campus. They travel with football, cover off-campus tennis matches and middle school events, and may soon support teams visiting schools that have no athletic trainer. At away venues, they often don't know where the AED is, whether there is one, or who has the key.

3 min

“No matter where a student or faculty member was, we could get to them within that 3-minute window.”

Stephanie Garibay, District Nurse Coordinator

Project ADAM
SAVES LIVES

PART OF A BIGGER COMMITMENT:

Project ADAM Heartsafe School District

Affton's AED program is one part of a broader cardiac readiness strategy. The district partnered with Project ADAM to pursue Heartsafe School District status. The effort included mapping AED locations to meet the 3-minute response goal, monitoring devices through the dashboard, writing a cardiac emergency response plan for each school community, and running annual training and cardiac drills.

From there, Project ADAM certified that the school district demonstrated strong cardiac emergency preparedness through awareness, training, and a practiced response plan. They met the standards outlined in the Heart Safe School Program Checklist - reflecting their commitment to a safer environment for students, staff, and visitors.

