



Secure Access  
at the Speed of Life

## The Bais Yaakov School for Girls (BYLA) Case Study



*Location:* Los Angeles, CA

*A private school*

*Memberships include the National Society of Hebrew Day Schools (NSHDS)*

*Access Points:* 8

*No. of Students:* 300 in grades 9-12

**The Challenge:** Enhancing security at the school and granting uninterrupted seamless access to students, staff and approved visitors only without compromising their convenient, hassle-free entry.

**The Solution:** Installing an advanced access control system that uses seamless, state-of-the-art technologies that include facial recognition, behavior analysis, voice recognition, and more to deliver superior security with unprecedented convenience.

**The Results:** FST Biometrics' IMID Access (In Motion Identification) solution that manages and controls building entry points, exits and common areas provided the BYLA school with the high level of security it sought. The technology and system put in place ensured that approved users would be granted convenient access at the speed of life while denying access to all others.

### CHALLENGE

Adequately protecting the school with secure access without compromising on convenience. In the past, BYLA had been incurring high costs for its security measures, which included the use of security guards on site. In addition, conventional access control systems did not provide the solutions they needed. On the contrary; when an access door was opened, any one could enter, so providing students with cards or fobs was clearly not a viable access control solution. Convenient but highly



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sophisticated and secure access control methods needed to be put in place to better protect BYLA's school children, its teachers and all school staff from intruders and any possible acts of violence.

## SOLUTION

Adam Cohen, the Facilities Manager for BYLA, needed to harden the school's security without creating a negative reaction from the students and staff. He chose to install the FST's IMID Access solution. "When I heard what FST Biometrics was developing," he recalls, "I said 'I want it!' Given what is going on in the world, I saw the need to enhance the security at the school. What prompted the upgrade is that we wanted something better than fingerprints alone," he explains. "Prior to selecting FST Biometrics, we tested a system using the fingerprint readers provided us with the needed security, but it was far from convenient. The students didn't like using the readers, and complained they were slow and unreliable. Strangely enough, the enrollment process was not reliable for some users and their fingerprints didn't even register. The enrolling system simply responded that nobody was there. We needed a better, more sophisticated system."

FST's IMID solution, an In Motion Identification system which employs quick and highly secure identification, registers users and can identify anyone at the door and allow approved user access through a fusion of biometric recognition, face and body behavior. The system can identify many people standing at the door at the same time and alert if someone that is unrecognized enter the complex. No keys, cards or access codes are needed. The system can verify individuals and make an informed decision whether to allow entrance.

## RESULTS

BYLA recently upgraded the system with additional internal doors leading to the office and enabling permission to access to staff members only. FST Biometrics created specific parameters that include restrictions for each group in the database. For example, students are expected to enter the school before 8:05 a.m. on school days. Any student that arrives after that time is diverted to the school receptionist to be listed as 'late for school'. FST also created the IMID Remote application designed for the receptionist to see all access points on the same screen and open, under supervision, the doors for deliveries and for students who are late.

"We've customized who has access and at what times," Cohen adds. "Staff, for example, has different access hours than students. Custodial staff has different hours than the rest of the staff and the students, and if, for instance, there are extra-curricular activities going on after school hours, we can remotely update the access parameters for any group." The staff and students at BYLA adapted quickly and easily to the IMID Access solution, Cohen reports. "It is an ongoing and smooth process. Every year, we enroll new students and staff and take their facial pictures that go into the computer to create those new templates. We also remove from the system those students who have just graduated."

"IMID Access is a good and solid system," Cohen attests. "It not only opens doors; it has other levels of preventive sophistication and awareness. It's always alert and active, creating a secure feeling for the students and the staff. It's a very precise system," he adds. "It works very well and is upgradeable. And, FST Biometrics is great about giving us the support and solutions we need to meet our needs."