

PRESS RELEASE – June 22, 2002

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Picture: “[San Gabriel school site administrative assistants get OPRA calendar in service training](#)”

Powerful OPRA Calendar not just for staff

Marina del Rey CA – Three current users of one or more OPRA modules have recently signed up for the OPRA Calendar module. San Gabriel Unified School District, Los Angeles Southwest College and Santee Unified School District have realized the power of the “two-view” web based OPRA Calendar module.

Problem: Until OPRA arrived these school districts had to rely on a district “WebMaster” to receive and post events on a calendar that may include 20 or 30 sites. Suppose that each site has 20 events per month, some important like the first day of school and some not so important like a “Hot Dog Picnic”. It’s easy to see that a single “Web Master”, who has several other duties, cannot efficiently keep up with all of these calendar postings and changes on a day to day basis. Yes, the major events may be posted but the school plays, PTA meetings and sports events at each location either get lost in a sea of printed handouts and bulletin board pin ups.

Enter the Web Based OPRA calendar system. Finally, enterprises (sites) may post their own events to a public or private calendar. The OPRA calendar provides both a “Public” and “Private” view. Events that are marked “private” such as internal staff meetings, etc., can be marked as such and can only be seen by staff members that have their own password or generic staff password when logging onto OPRA. OPRA also provides a “Public View” of the calendar available to anyone via a link from the districts web site. The “Public View” hides the events marked “Private” and also allows the public viewer to select events at sites that are only of interest to them. For example: A parent who has three children at three different schools may select the three schools of interest and see all of the events at these three schools. Additionally the parent may filter down to “essential events” such as the first day of school, holidays, test days and the like with a click of the mouse.

Beyond the usefulness for parents, having a up to date event calendar that they can print out and hang on the kitchen fridge, this more complete information helps the district’s internal departments as well. For example: Maintenance and Operations now knows not to send a ground crew to groom the park at XYZ school if a school “Hot Dog Picnic” is scheduled for the grounds on that day. Because OPRA alarms of possible conflicts, facilities reservation personnel automatically know if a conflict exist at a particular site on the same day. With the OPRA Calendar module, finally everyone within your enterprise is on the same page.

PPS Systems, Inc. is a privately held company with headquarters in Marina del Rey, California. PPS provides and hosts its OPRA software to several school districts throughout the region and currently supports several districts with over 300,000 students, thousands of transactions and thousands of parents on a daily basis through one or more of their browser based software modules.

The service that is described above relates to a natural expansion of the utilization of the company's expertise and services available. Interested parties may contact PPS at 800-545-4888 or email at sales@opras.net.

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