

Calling System Software Comparison – 10/08

Feature/Provider	Global Connect	Parent Broadcast / One Call Now	SchoolReach	Alert Now	School Messenger
Email Option	3 Addresses	4 Addresses	Unlimited	Yes-1MB attachments	SchoolMessenger supports an unlimited number of e-mail contacts.
Text Option	Unlimited	Not available at the time of request	Unlimited	Yes	SchoolMessenger supports true SMS text messaging, as opposed to SMTP.
Import Numbers	Yes, SIF compliant	Yes	Yes	Yes or parent portal	SchoolMessenger supports an unlimited number of contact phone numbers. Numbers are automatically updated on a daily basis from your student and staff software packages.
Cost	\$1.80 /Student 6 months free – Price available only with IU endorsement Unlimited use, automated attendance, full integration included. Faculty free	Pay-as-you-go 18 cents/minute Urgent Only (2\$/student) Weather or emergencies Urgent Plus (3\$/student) Subgroups, Absentee Faculty free	\$2.50 / Student 3 months free 3\$/Student 1month free Attendance, Data Integrator Faculty free	\$2.25 /student, no set up fees no charge for staff	Pricing varies by solution option.
Districts currently using	IU12 IU8 IU28 IU24 IU4 IU5	Barber Institute, Diocese, Northeast, Northwestern, Collegiate Academy, Strong Vincent(ESD)		Over 2000	Over 8,000 district and schools clients.
Definable Phone Numbers	6 Numbers	4 Numbers – 1 + Parent Hotline	Unlimited	Yes, caller ID is customizable per user account	SchoolMessenger supports an unlimited number of definable contact phone numbers.

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Delay Delivery	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes or immediate	SchoolMessenger will retry busy/unanswered/disconnects/ etc at intervals set by the district, up to the district's preferred number of maximum attempts. SchoolMessenger masks caller ID (i.e. district or school number) to bypass "do not call" lists.
Interface	<p>Phone/Microphone/Upload Messages thru web interface</p> <p>No limit to number of lists or broadcasts saved</p> <p>10 Activities upload</p> <p>Call Lists linked – auto refresh</p> <p>Link Back feature (Press # to call)</p> <p>Polling options</p>	<p>Minimal web interface used for List Management and reporting</p> <p>Phone Message recording</p> <p>Parent "Hotline" – self-management of contact information</p>	<p>99 Lists/School</p> <p>99 Saved Messages/School</p> <p>5 user defined fields</p> <p>Phone/Microphone/Upload Messages thru web interface</p> <p>Lists not auto refreshed</p>	Yes	SchoolMessenger is accessible 24X7X365 via any touch-tone phone or any standard web browser
Call Time	200 Lines standard can burst to 400 or 800 in emergencies	15 Minutes or less / Call 3 Call centers for bursts	540,000 / Hour 300 non-VOIP lines	4-6K per minute	Please attached "How Fast Do You Call" document.
Pins	1 District & 1 per school	1 District, 1 per school, sub-pins for groups	1 per school	Yes	SchoolMessenger users each have a unique username and password, as well as a unique telephone pin code and password for remote access. Please see attached security document for more information.
Text-to-speech	Yes	No	Yes – Add-on	Yes in 11 languages	SchoolMessenger uses ATTS from Loquendo.

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Reporting	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, very robust	SchoolMessenger offers robust reporting capabilities. Queries can be ran from system inception date and include granular reporting by job/job type/contact/date/total usage/etc
<p>It is important to note that in addition to the vendors listed above, we have also talked to Connect Ed. At the time of posting, I do not have all of the information for Connect Ed for the rubric, but they look to be another very via solution. They have been doing this work for 7 years, they are involved with 20,000 districts, and have a very good reputation among current users. When we spoke, the charge to implement was \$2200 and they were offering a special pricing for \$2.95 per student per year.</p>					