

Kantonsschule Olten

LOCATION

Olten, Kanton Solothurn

SECTOR

Education

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

Around 1100

NUMBER OF ROOMZ DISPLAYS

85 Displays

Kantonsschule Olten (Olten Cantonal School) has been undergoing renovation since 2015. The building from the 1970s is visibly transforming into a modern school facility with a contemporary infrastructure. This includes its room signage. Stylish, wireless and always state-of-the-art, ROOMZ displays are replacing outdated paper schedules.

www.kantiolten.ch

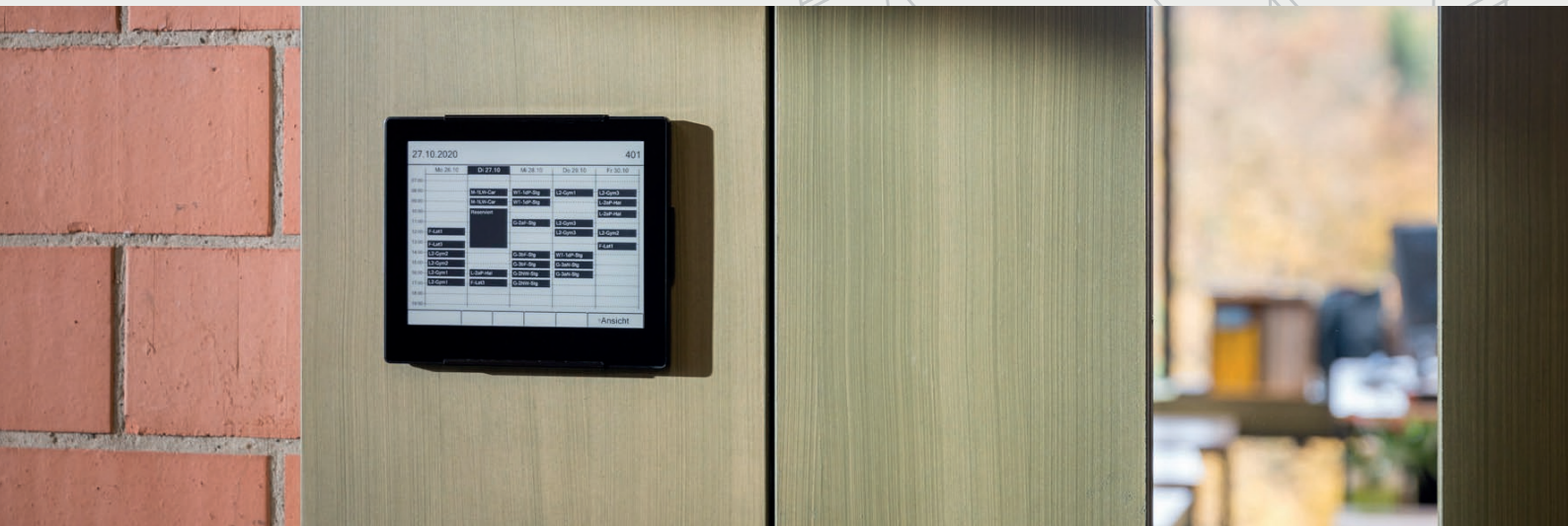
Kantonsschule Olten modernises its room signage with ROOMZ displays

The complete renovation of a school is a mammoth project that demands a lot from everyone involved. Isabelle Berger, who has been in charge of IT services at Kantonsschule Olten since 2013, knows this too: «The renovation was really challenging for everyone, as we continuously maintained school operations during the now six-year construction phase. The refurbishment, in turn, enabled us to modernise our infrastructure down to the last detail. Among these details is also the room signage. Like many other schools, Olten Kantonsschule was still working with an outdated system of printed schedules. Besides the time required for replacing them, they are always in danger of being outdated, as Isabelle Berger confirmed: «Our system was really out of date and quite inflexible. Each semester, someone had to take down the old schedules from all 100 classrooms and replace them with the new ones. As soon as a change occurred, the schedules were no longer up to date.»

INTERFACE TO SCHOOL SOFTWARE

Within the scope of the overall renovation, those responsible at Kantonsschule Olten formed various working groups – including the «Rooms» working group. The idea of replacing the paper schedules with digital displays arose in this group. These had to be compatible with the scheduling software – KASCHUSO – used by Kantonsschulen Olten. Research showed that Centerboard, the company which develops that software had already realised a project with ROOMZ. «This allowed us to assume that the interface from the display to the software was already quite advanced,» according to Isabelle Berger. Fabien Moine, Head of Sales & Marketing at ROOMZ, was then invited to present the company's displays. «Several aspects of the solution really impressed us.





The displays are visually appealing, are wireless, low-maintenance, very energy-efficient as well as vandal-proof with their magnetic lock. We were also shown the special «Education Display» during the presentation. It provides a view-only function, which is important for us as in school operations.» Asked why, the IT manager explained with a smile: «Otherwise, unpopular courses might perhaps suddenly disappear from the schedule.»

RAPID IMPLEMENTATION ONCE THE CONTRACT WAS AWARDED

Despite the many convincing arguments, the school's internal decision-making process took a long time. «Decisions like this involve various bodies; costs must be estimated and approved. Cooperation with the cantonal building department, which is responsible for all renovation projects, has also played a key role. We felt professionally supported by ROOMZ throughout this process. Fabien Moine showed plenty of tact, supplied us with additional information when needed, dropped off samples and still never pushed us to make a decision.» When Isabelle Berger was finally able to place the order, the project quickly took off. She reminisced: «The programmers from Centerboard and ROOMZ installed an interface within a very short time without great expense. They were able to build on the existing interface while doing so. We also appreciated the fact that the experts from both companies already knew each other and had already established a good cooperation».

THE DISPLAYS ARE A SURE-FIRE SUCCESS

Most classrooms have meanwhile been equipped with the displays. Some meeting rooms and multi-functional rooms are also equipped with a display – however, the classic version with the booking option. It is advantageous to be able to make meeting room reservations on site. Isabelle Berger is glad to have moved away from paper schedules. She summarized: «The displays are a complete success – they have worked flawlessly since commissioning. The schedules are updated after a definable interval.



«Several aspects of the solution really impressed us. The displays are visually appealing, wireless, low-maintenance, very energy-efficient as well as vandal-proof with their magnetic lock.»

Isabelle Berger, IT Services Manager for Kantonsschule Olten

Between these intervals, they consume no energy, which is also an advantage from an ecological point of view. We have opted for an hourly update. Both the displays and the ROOMZ experts impressed us all down the line.»