



## ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Safeguarding Students in a Growing Digital Environment

Orange Unified School District (Orange USD) is a public school district located in Orange, California that educates approximately 26,000 pre-K-12 students. In 2020, they partnered with Gaggle due to concerns about cyberbullying and inappropriate content being distributed. Since the partnership began, Gaggle has proactively safeguarded their students' online experiences and overall well-being.

### PROTECTING STUDENTS IN A DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

Like many districts, Orange USD's goal is to keep their students safe and secure in a growing digital environment.

In 2020, the district began exploring new ways to address issues like cyberbullying, content sharing, and potential self-harm scenarios while also safeguarding students' online experiences. Soon after, Orange USD decided to partner with Gaggle as their student safety and well-being provider.

The decision to adopt Gaggle was driven by the district's commitment to enhancing its educational technology plan and the growing importance of digital security.

Shortly after Gaggle was implemented, the district faced an incident involving a student being targeted through sex extortion, with explicit and inappropriate content almost being distributed to multiple students. The offender hacked into the student's device and attempted to distribute this content to students and staff. Gaggle ensured that communication was blocked.

**"We realized that Gaggle had intercepted that communication before it reached anyone's mailbox. And that was a huge sigh of relief. Your ability to stop something like that really saved us as a district."**

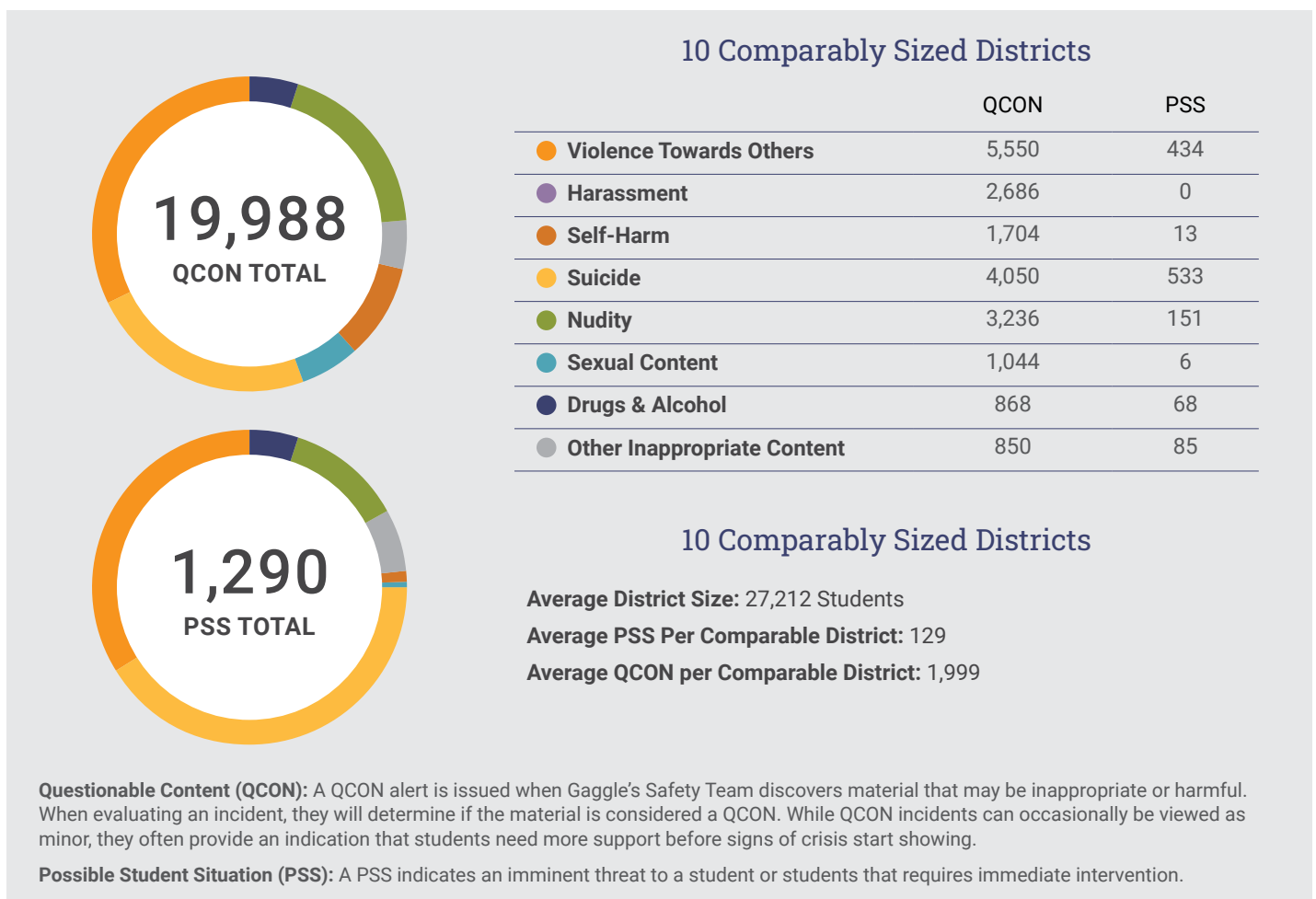
**DERRICK CHAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
FOR NETWORKING SYSTEMS**

Assistant Director, Derrick Chan, has extensive experience in the field of education technology and networking systems. Prior to his current role at Orange USD, he served as the IT Director for a smaller neighboring district. With nearly 24 years of experience in the education technology space, Derrick possesses a deep and broad knowledge of technology across various educational contexts, and praises Gaggle for its proactive approach.

“Comparatively to some other similar competitor companies, Gaggle has definitely been at the forefront. In many ways, it’s been the **gold standard** as far as student safety and digital safety is concerned.”

## NEXT STEPS FOR DISTRICTS

Comparative analysis shows that Orange Unified School District is not unique in facing incidents related to student safety and well-being. Across comparable school districts nationwide, incidents such as self-harm, suicide, violence towards others, and more, have been steadily increasing in recent years.



This trend highlights the pressing need for districts to be proactive in examining and implementing strategies to address the rise of mental health concerns in K-12 students.



Gaggle’s mission is to ensure the safety and well-being of students and schools by leveraging people and technology. Let us help you create a safer digital learning environment for your students.

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