Five Myths of Fingerscan Biometrics Dispelled

1. Fingerscan Biometrics can be used by law enforcement

   First and foremost, the image is not stored in the process of FSS-Sagem Morpho enrollment. The student enrolls only two fingers compared to 10 in AFIS or law enforcement. At enrollment**,** the FSS-Sagem Morpho process develops a grid of intersection points from the swirls and arcs of the scanned finger. The actual image of the fingerprint is then discarded and only a "template" remains. All the system stores is a set of numbers that can only be interpreted as a template. The system only remembers the processed numbers for each individual at time of identification.

   Key differences between the FSS Sagem Morpho Process and AFIS

   - FSS Sagem Morpo process uses only two fingers, AFIS forensics uses ten.
   - FSS Sagem Morpo process uses flat images, AFIS forensics uses rolled images.
   - FSS Sagem Morpo collect up to 40 unique identifying points from flat images. AFIS forensics collects up to 112 unique identifying points from rolled images.
   - Data taken from a forensic system can not be used in the FSS Sagem Morpho process**.**

2. Fingerscan process slows down the lunch line

   Identification time via the fingerscan process is comparable to card swipes and/or pin pad entry. Every process, including biometrics, will have ID failure. Students forget, or mistype the pin (did you mistype your computer password this week?) Students will forget their ID card, swipe it incorrectly, or lose it. Students will also incorrectly place their finger on the fingerscan reader and fail to identify. No system is perfect.

   The fastest through the lunch line system. Tickets. No identification needed. Just hand the ticket off and go. But the nightmare of tracking paper tickets and the virtual lack of accounting created, not to mention overtly identifying free or reduced students as poor, make this a system that absolutely needs to be replaced.

   Want to speed up the line. Go COMPLETELY cashless. Cash creates all kinds of issues from the time it takes to give change, the opportunity for theft and no accountability for the money given by the parent to the student as lunch money.

3. Students must be rescanned every year

   FSS Sagem Morpho biometric process has been in use since 1999. As per our clients, there has not been a time when a whole grade of students needed to be rescanned. Some students do experience growth spurts in grades 6-8 but rescanning only needs done on an individual basis. Most of the 300,000 students using the FSS Sagem Morpho biometric process have not been rescanned and those that have been rescanned, have informed the cashier of the need to be re-enrolled.

4. Fingerscanning does not work on elementary students

   While the enrollment process does take a bit longer on young students (ages 5-8) these students enroll at the roughly the same percentile (97%-98% success) as the rest of the student population. At identification, it does take younger students longer to learn the user interface (touching the scanner), but within a few weeks, younger students will identify on the first time at nearly the same rate as their older peers (95%). Younger students want to do it right while older students may try to use a finger not enrolled or place it sideways on the scanner just for fun.

5. Each Student Must Be Enrolled on Each Point of Sale Station

   The FSS Sagem Morpho biometric process has been designed to not only enroll once and identify at any line in the building, but if necessary, can identify at any line in the entire district. In addition, the built in redundancy of our solution allows for the identification process and the lunch line to continue even if the server goes down or the Internet goes caput. Even if you can’t send email, your entire lunch line continues without interruption.