

CUSTOMER CASE STUDY

Fortune 500-Sized Protection

Available for School-Sized Budgets



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North Providence Public Schools



Located just on the outskirts of the city of Providence, RI, North Providence is a community of 32,500 inhabitants. Student to teacher ratio is 14 to 1. Their focus is to provide excellence in education through instruction that is rigorous, engaging, and personalized for each student.



SCHOOLS

9 schools, Serving Grades K-12





Timing is Everything

Law enforcement experts agree that an effective response to an active shooter incident starts by immediately sending reliable, accurate location information to first responders so that they may reduce incident duration and save lives. At the North Providence Public School District, the SDS Indoor Gunshot Detection System provides instant notification of gunshots, allowing for rapid response by both police and the school's administrators.

Passionate about school security, the town's public safety and police leaders engaged Shooter Detection Systems (SDS) to install the SDS Indoor Gunshot Detection System in their school buildings. After assessing floor plans and evaluating entry and exit pathways, North Providence Police, school leadership, and the municipality's facilities teams agreed on threat areas and sensor locations. Once installed, alerts were configured so that both law enforcement and school administrators are automatically notified if shots are detected within any of the school buildings. And since the SDS system easily integrates with most video management systems—in this case the ExacqVision VMS—each school in the network can automatically track, transmit and record video of shooter activity to further improve building evacuation and reduce police response time. With gunshot detection integrated into the school's and police response plans for active shooter incidents, North Providence students, staff, and first responders now have an additional layer of security and situational awareness when every second counts.

By having this technology it's going to greatly minimize that time that you have to be worried about

that active threat in a school.



CAPTAIN DEREK BOREK
Rhode Island State Police

The North Providence Solution

Automated Alerts and Video Identification

The school district chose the SDS Indoor Gunshot Detection System for its dual-mode acoustic and infrared detection sensors that detect gunshots in sub-one second while filtering out false alerts. SMS, email, and desktop alerts were configured for both the school's administrators and local police.

One major selling point was SDS' ability to easily integrate into the school district's existing Tyco exacqVision VMS. While every SDS system comes with a desktop software displaying exact location information, integration with a VMS allows users to identify an assailant's clothing, weapon type or, in the case of an accidental weapon discharge, intent. Video compliments SDS' data when additional information is required for legal purposes, should the need arise. Installation was performed by the school's facilities management team—further reducing the project's costs.



Why do schools like North Providence pick the SDS Indoor System?

REDUCED POLICE RESPONSE TIMES

SDS indoor is 100% autonomous and can immediately trigger security protocols like text alerts, trigger 911 alerting, incident video, and mass notification technologies.

REDUCED FALSE ALERTS

Building evacuations and social media rumors due to false alerts steal time away from teaching and learning. SDS' dual-mode technology keeps false alerts to a minimum—statistically less than one false alert per 5 million hours of use.

COMMITTED PARTNER IN SCHOOL SAFETY

SDS is committed to helping our nation's schools. We have a dedicated grants assistance program and a discount incentive program to encourage our resellers to pass on discounts to K-12 customers.

REDUCED LITIGATION RISKS

Having this technology shows prospective students and parents that safety is a top priority. SDS, alone or with a VMS, can provide accurate records of gunshot events in case of legal disputes.



Help Your First Responders Practice More Effectively

In a live-fire exercise with the system, the North Providence Police Department demonstrated how shot frequency and location was made immediately available with the SDS floor plan mapping software. This test demonstrated how quickly on-duty officers and school staff could visually locate and track confirmed gunshot signatures and then directly target the active shooter threat—greatly reducing response times. Each SDS installation comes with testing capabilities that can simulate an active shooter event without the need to fire an actual weapon.

The SDS software displays multi-floor, multi-site, and multi-campus sensor locations. All sensors have self-testing and anti-tampering alerts to ensure the highest levels of accuracy without excessive maintenance.



Question & Answer

Is funding for Active Shooter Detection Systems allowed under federal and state grants?

Yes, as they can be classified as communications systems that alert or communicate with local law enforcement resources. SDS can help qualified institutions get funding for a gunshot detection system thanks to our Grants Assistance Program. Contact us today to see if your organization meets the qualification requirements for grant funding.





The SDS Indoor Gunshot Detection System is a four-time Campus Safety BEST Winner and is SAFETY Act Certified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.*

*Formerly called the Guardian Indoor Active Shooter Detection System



SDS is proud to have joined forces with the Partner Alliance for Safe Schools (PASS) to support their mission and advocate for critical school safety efforts.



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