

*“Common Sense“*

# **SCHOOL SECURITY**

## **WHICH DEVICES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED**

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Long gone are the days where the car and home were never locked. Security using active and passive techniques has continued to grow to match the criminal threat. Protection, Security all hoping to never need it yet that one time out of a million when you need it may not be there.

The Police have learned well from Columbine. Average response to a school is 5 minutes, and the Police aggressively seek the shooter. In each case the Shooter committed suicide within 5 minutes, after expending 150 rounds or more (1 shot every 2 seconds). One area that still needs work is the area of drills. Only 60% of Schools drill for an Active Shooter. The other area would be common active and passive security countermeasures since every year more than 3,600 breaches with firearms occur.

### **BACKGROUND – Author:**

Author has a background in computers, video, construction, and a Class “C” 57% rated Shooter in USPSA. Competitive using handguns, rifles and shotguns in maze type scenarios.

### **WHY:**

Politics being used instead of actual security Active and Passive Techniques. Somehow we all believe that armed guards are needed. We believe a name on a database will stop a sale. Believe Parents will lock up the firearms or notice their child needs help. The month after Newtown, 3 separate incidents of humans gaining access to schools with weapons in Maryland (A.A. County) Another in Glen Burnie, MD had a child carrying a revolver. Reason for this report, Schools should consider both Active and Passive security.

### **SCOPE:**

Research released reports:

[Columbine Co](#)

[VA Tech](#)

Secret Service School Shooting Report

[http://www.secretservice.gov/ntac/ssi\\_final\\_report.pdf](http://www.secretservice.gov/ntac/ssi_final_report.pdf)

Neiman, S. (2011).

Crime, Violence, Discipline, and Safety in U.S. Public Schools: Findings from the School Survey on Crime and Safety: 2009–10

(NCES 2011-320). U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011320.pdf>

Robers, S., Zhang, J., and Truman, J. (2012) Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2011

(NCES 2012-002/ NCJ 236021). National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, and Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Washington, DC.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2012/2012002.pdf>

NICS 2007 Improvement Amendments Act

State Records Estimates Development and Validation Project

Year Two Report December 2011

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/bjs/grants/236908.pdf>

### **Facility Planning: Best Practices for School Safety and Security**

*An Ideal Environment is Rooted in Passive Concepts and Applied Active Concepts as Necessary*

<http://tinyurl.com/cg2d5cj>

Google Maps Street View to located and photograph entrances to Elementary, Middle and High Schools in the Maryland area. None of the photos will identify the school. Only the type of school and year built.

### **LAST LINE OF DEFENSE:**

Chances that a firearm is brought into a building are actually low, but 3000 to 4000 incidents occur every year. Each one has the potential to be a mass shooting.

First line of defense would be the NICS, yet in the current form it is at best 75% complete.

Second line of Defense would be a Parent, Guardian, Friend control the access to firearm and to Observe behavior.

Last line of defense would be the access to a building including active and passive security concepts. These concepts are described in **Facility Planning: Best Practices for School Safety and Security**.

## **WHAT IS THE REQUIREMENT TO DEFEND AGAINST?**

Think the worse case hope for the best case.

Number of Perpetrators: 1 or 2 or more

Weapons: Firearms, Incendiary and or Bomb, or Should Biologics be added?

Vehicle crashing though front door: To gain Access, to use as a Bomb.

The Requirement above cannot be satisfied by many public schools. The photos provided show the front entrance of an elementary, middle and high school. The photos show that none of the examples will stop a vehicle; all have way too much glass/ Glazing in the front.



Elementary School, Access direct from a 40 MPH Secondary road. This school was built 40+ years ago.



Same School further away photo



Elementary School 2, newer design 1970's



Middle School 1970. Less glazing / Glass in front. A vehicle still can drive right up.



Image Date: June 2012  
Typical older generation High School.



Same High School overhead photo show no devices to stop a vehicle.



High School built 2003. No Added Security Features. Too much glazing/  
windows. No protection from vehicles.

**NOTE:** *The official report on Sandy Hook Elementary will be out in June. Based on the current unofficial information the issue this report brings into question may have averted the horrible crime.*

GLAZING / GLASS:

Sandy Hook did have a security door system. It was locked. The perpetrator shot out the glass and entered the school.

-Fix for this is 30,000\$ MAN Trap, with AK 47 resistance glass.

DRILL OFTEN:

The principle instead of issuing a lockdown command went to meet the attacker. The lock down command may have given the extra time needed to secure the doors in the two classrooms the perpetrator entered and killed the children.

- Fix for this is drilling the administrators, teachers, and children.
- In a bad situation seconds count, drilling makes the procedure easier to follow in a panic.

**Devices I consider minimum protection:**

- MAN Traps
- Metal Detectors
- Bollards

These can offer basic protection for \$20.00 per pupil.

**-MAN TRAP**

Heavy duty continuous geared aluminium hinges (carry up to 430kg and AK47 assault rifle resistant)



**Man Traps can be configured many ways to be added to a school entrance.**

### **-Metal Detectors**

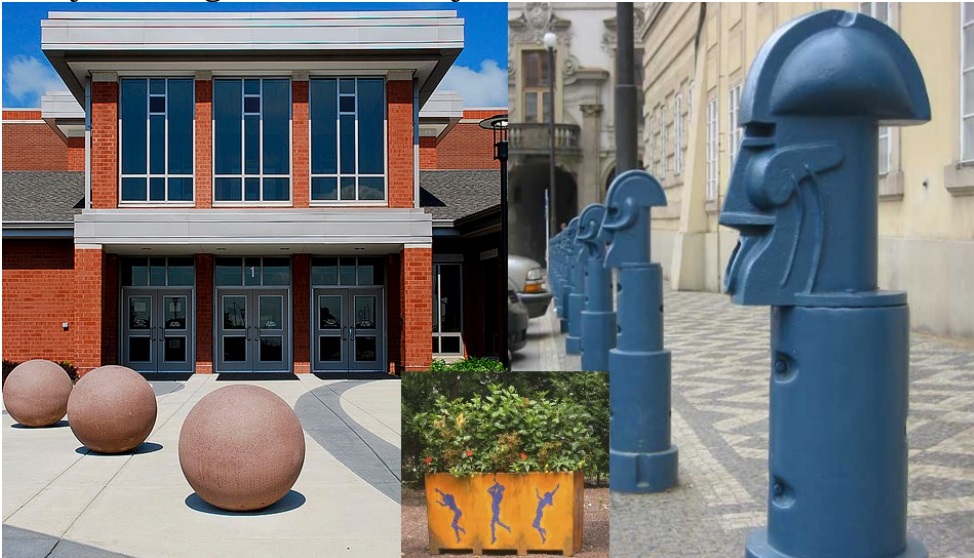
- Can be hand held or walk through
- Cost as little as \$100 for a hand held device
- Could be used in a rotating use pattern to keep perpetrators guessing
- Every year 3000 to 4000 breaches of a school with a metal weapon, knife or firearm is evident of the need for metal detectors



### **-Bollards**

- Devices designed to stop vehicles from entering / crashing through entrances. DC is considered the City of Bollards. These can be permanent or be made as flower boxes and concrete.

Many are disguised as art objects and will blend into the view.



High School entrance, Bollards, No front glazing/Glass, bullet proof Man Traps. Nice job on getting it right. Bollards do not have to be ugly. Bollards can be made in many shapes, color and sizes for concealment or beauty.

**CONCLUSION:**

Common Sense School Security is not being considered. The country has had 18 years since Oklahoma City to install these devices and to prepare with drills. Currently most schools in my area have no such devices. Even the brand new constructed schools do not have devices. A National Study said only 60% of schools practice drills. Seconds count.

I doubt any person can fix the mental health problem, people can go off with out warning. I doubt anyone will fix the inattentive nature of humans being a parent or friend. I doubt all firearm owners will keep their firearms locked.

That being said, protective devices can buy time for the police to react. To have the issues fixed will take the citizens to put pressure on the Federal, State and Local government.