

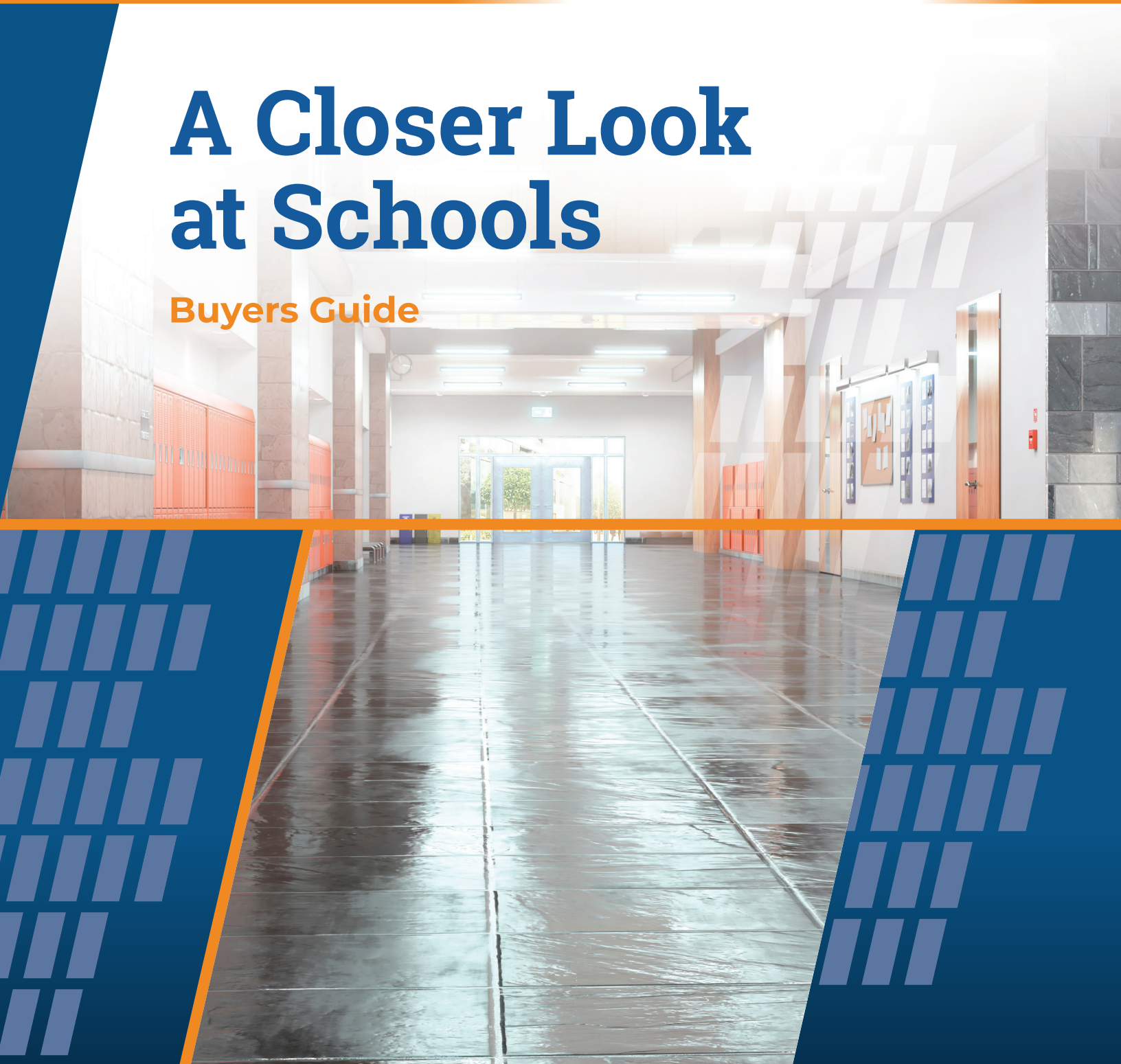


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A Closer Look at Schools

Buyers Guide





Intrusion Detection

TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS WE WORK WITH:

- DSX
- Lenel
- Feenics
- Bosch

Historically, intrusion detection has been an item oftentimes left out of the security plan for schools. School officials cite dynamic scheduling issues, extra-curricular activities, and janitorial responsibilities as just a few of the reasons why. Today, however, the risks to property, personnel, and students have changed. Fortunately, so has intrusion detection technology.

Modern intrusion detection systems can now be programmed to reflect how a school facility is used throughout the week and by whom. User management is improved, allowing users of the intrusion detection system to arm and disarm all or any portion of the facility that they need to use. This allows for specific areas, like the gymnasium to be unlocked while the classroom areas are locked. Likewise, when all events are complete, the janitorial

staff can work in safety knowing that the exterior doors are armed while they are conducting their activities to ready the school for the next day.

Add to this flexibility, the ability of the principal or other administrators to self-monitor the intrusion detection system with a simple mobile app, and the fear of repetitive false alarms going to the local police department are alleviated.

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Video Surveillance

TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS WE WORK WITH:

Cameras

- Axis
- Avigilon
- Hanwha
- Panasonic

Video Management System (VMS)

- Milestone
- Avigilon
- OpenEye
- ExacqVision

Video surveillance for schools, like most other industries, is increasing in popularity based on the demand for post-incident evidence. Fortunately, the once difficult hallways to monitor are now easily monitored thanks to advancements in panoramic and multi-imager security camera technology.

Corridors and stairwells can now be observed and recorded with relative ease. Likewise, large, open areas like cafeterias and gymnasiums can be better monitored with panoramic cameras that can see in all directions with very high resolution.

Entrances can be observed with cameras that are unified to the intercom system, increasing situational awareness by adding video to the audio communication when visitors request entry into the building during school hours. Plus, entrances can be particularly difficult to observe

with security cameras due to the number of windows allowing very bright light inside. This can cause silhouetting when using older security cameras. Today's cameras can equalize the image by using high dynamic range technology, allowing better identification of people when they enter or walk in front of the window while still being able to see darker areas of the entrance simultaneously.

And video analytics make exterior monitoring more effective, especially in areas where there is increased risk to property like turf athletic fields. Thanks to cameras with built-in intelligent analytics, cameras can keep watch on areas that were nearly impossible to watch before. Specific behaviors can cause an alert to go to officials and can even cause lights to turn on or initiate pre-recorded audio announcements in the area where a potential threat is appearing.

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Access Control

TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS WE WORK WITH:

- DSX
- AMAG
- Feenics
- Lenel
- Salto

The control of doors is becoming more prevalent in schools as entry into administrative, information technology, and other sensitive areas is being restricted. In some cases, access control technology is also playing an important part of the lockdown or evacuation plan in case of emergency.

Having a data base of those who are permitted to enter specific rooms or areas combined with electronic door locking hardware allows school administrators the flexibility to implement access policies based on system user, time of day, day of week, and emergency. This automation can be applied to both interior and exterior doors for a complete solution.

Unification of access control and video surveillance can enable administrators to visually observe special access requests remotely,

allowing them to unlock or lock a door with the click of an icon on their mobile device. System logging allows for forensic investigation of doors held open, access denied card swipes, and other system statuses which can be cross-referenced to video surveillance for simplification of post-incident investigations.

And when more than one building is part of the application, the data base can be shared, and users can be granted access permission based on need across the campus or even throughout the entire school district.

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Visitor Management

TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS WE WORK WITH:

- Easy Lobby
- Feenics

Knowing who is entering the school building and where they are going is critical to the safety and security of students, staff, teachers, and visitors.

Prior to entry, video surveillance and intercom can be used to request the nature of a visit as well as the visual verification of the person requesting entry. Unification between the intercom and electronic door locking hardware allows the school staff to unlock the door remotely, allowing the visitor access.

Vetting of visitor identity usually starts at the lobby where a driver's license can be scanned to verify who the visitor is and track their visitation history for future reference.

Tracking of this information is critical when post-incident investigation is required or during

national or local health emergencies, like a pandemic, when contact tracing may be appropriate.

Visitor management systems can also be enabled to have the visitor pre-enroll, allowing time for school staff to vet the visitor before arrival. This capability eliminates some of the in-person interaction time and reduces lobby occupancy.

Additionally, license plate reader cameras can compare tag numbers of cars arriving to a list of known vehicles, allowing administrators to realize the arrival of someone who is on a watch list with a restraining order or some other access-limiting condition. This provides time to react to a potential incident before it begins.

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Cyber Security

While significant strides have been made in the technologies being deployed for security and safety at schools, this presents a new risk to administrators —cyber security threats from security devices connected to the IT network.

Nearly every security device is enabled with an IP connection, increasing the potential for breach of the school system's data security. Fortunately, security system manufacturers have worked to meet and exceed the most stringent IT best practices. And, even after devices are installed, updating of firmware and system software is paramount to keeping the systems secure.

Encryption of access card credentials, video surveillance camera firmware, and system software patches and updates are implemented and updated on a scheduled basis through post-installation maintenance agreements.

However, do not overlook one of the easiest ways to secure data —physical security. Securing the data closets, server rooms, and other areas associated with the IT department will keep people at arm's length from the equipment, network switches, and other important IT assets.

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Other Security Considerations

TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS WE WORK WITH:

Contact Tracing

- Avigilon
- Axis
- Milestone

Heat Mapping

- Avigilon
- Feenics
- Milestone

In addition to the traditional security solutions like access control and video surveillance, it is important to consider new solutions that answer challenges institutions are facing today and into the future.

Pandemic concerns can be addressed with new improvements to video surveillance cameras. Now, cameras can act as smart detectors and measurement devices. They can count people in an area and create alerts when occupancy is nearing maximum limits. Cameras at entrance points can be used to screen temperatures during health screening situations. They can determine which areas need to be cleaned or disinfected more often than others by sending data to systems that can create activity or occupancy heat maps. And visitor management and access control systems can play a part in contact tracing.

Gunshot detection systems can trip a series of automated processes involving locking or unlocking doors, triggering pre-recorded audio messages, and immediately notify local authorities. Doors can be automatically closed, much like during a fire alarm emergency.

Bus lanes can be kept clear with intelligent cameras that can detect cars stopped during unauthorized times of day. Alerts from the camera system can be sent via text message or email to administrators who can request that the vehicle be moved immediately to keep bus traffic flowing.

The same intelligent cameras used to keep buses moving and athletic fields from being vandalized at night can also detect loitering in areas where congregation or waiting is not a normal activity. This can also be sent as an alert to administrators to investigate. To save time, the administrator can access video surveillance footage from a mobile device or on their computer before walking to that area of the campus.

When it comes to security and safety at education facilities, new technology advancements can help mitigate risk and support a safe and secure learning environment. A site survey with a trusted security provider can reveal potential applications for new technologies to support organizational initiatives.



How We Work

WE WILL BE THERE FOR YOU AFTER INSTALLING YOUR SYSTEM SUPPORTING YOU 24/7.

At Pro-Tec Design, we don't start with the solution, we work to provide guidance to help you identify your security needs and work to prioritize them. Our experts will start by asking questions to make sure that we really understand your current situation and what problems you are trying to solve. And these questions go beyond security. What other priorities does your organization have and how is security impacted? Who are the people that will use the system and what are their skills? What IT staff is in place and what preferences do they have regarding technology? What budget dollars are available for your security priorities? By fully understanding your current situation, we can propose the proper design, incorporating the right products, that will be the most useful to your constituents and can be maintained as cost effectively as possible.

Our experienced team will then work closely with you to implement the solution, provide user training, and document the system so that it can be properly maintained. And we will be there for you after the system is installed supporting you with our 24/7 Help Desk, experienced service department and communicating to you the latest advances so you can rest easy that you are keeping people safe and secure.

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