Low Cost Safety Improvements

Here are several school safety improvements that you can implement at your district and schools for little to no money.

Classrooms (Including Portables)

- ☐ "Hard corners" identified and clearly marked in every classroom
- ☐ Doors and window coverings (permanent i.e. paper, retractable, etc.)
- ☐ Classroom door locks (from inside)
- ☐ Science labs, etc. have all chemicals, hazardous materials, and other items (knives, scalpels, etc.) securely stored and locked

School Buildings

- ☐ Signage advising visitors to report to the main office
- ☐ Working locks on all exterior doors and windows – locked at all times (Prevent entry, not exit; Unlocked doors should be staffed.)
- ☐ Keep hallways clear of obstructions
- ☐ Gates on perimeter; Fencing locked
- ☐ All windows and doors numbered and clearly marked (with tape, stickers, etc.)
- ☐ Safety drills and simulations
- ☐ Visible student and staff IDs (on lanyards)
- ☐ Cover, protect, and secure utilities (gas, electric, communications) against tampering
- ☐ Monitor restrooms, stairwells, buses, etc. for graffiti, etc.

- ☐ Replace non-operational lights (bulbs, fixtures, etc.)

District

- ☐ Thorough and current situational response protocols (Reunification plans for evacuation events)
- ☐ Periodic meetings with local law enforcement and first responders
- ☐ Community engagement/communication
- ☐ Bully/threat reporting tip-line and response protocols

Medium Cost Safety Improvements

Here are several school safety improvements that you can implement at your district and schools for a mid-size investment.

Classrooms (Including Portables)

- ☐ Glass glazing/bullet-proof film on windows and doors
- ☐ One-to-many alerting system ('panic' button)
- ☐ Indicator locks (visible to tell if door is locked or unlocked)
- ☐ Covered paths to portables
- ☐ Lockdown kits (essentials i.e. bottle water, first aid, etc.)
- ☐ Door barricades

School Buildings

- ☐ Glass glazing/bullet-proof film or windows and doors
- ☐ One-to-many alerting system ('panic' button)
- ☐ Visitor management (require photo ID, print 'visitor' sticker, etc.)
- ☐ Campus fencing and gates
- ☐ Natural barriers (landscaping, etc.)
- ☐ Drive identification (numbering driveways) for first responders
- ☐ School Resource Officers (SROs)
- ☐ Natural access control (buses separate from parent drop-off)
- ☐ Reinforce/protect firm alarm pulls from misuse

- ☐ Blind spots in hallways and stairwells equipped with parabolic mirrors (or similar surveillance device)
- ☐ After-hours alarm system (notify key personnel of break-ins, fire, etc.)
- ☐ Back-up generator (in case of power outage)
- ☐ Carbon monoxide detectors

District

- ☐ Social media monitoring
- ☐ Dedicated communication devices (radios, etc.) for safety team personnel
- ☐ Mass communication platform
- ☐ Safety assessments at every school (gap analysis)
- ☐ District-wide safety training (ALICE, etc.)
- ☐ Clear or transparent backpacks
- ☐ Background checks for all school personnel (including volunteers)
- ☐ Social-emotional curriculum

High Cost Safety Improvements

Here are several school safety improvements that you can implement at your district and schools for a large investment.

Classrooms (Including Portables)

☐ Safe rooms

School Buildings

☐ Video surveillance with 24/7 recording
☐ Metal detectors
☐ Exterior door alarms (notify when open)
☐ Gunshot detection technology
☐ Command/control rooms
☐ Visitor management ('mantrap' background check, issue visitor badge, security escort)
☐ Student and staff ID badges to grant access to building, sensitive areas, etc.
☐ Removal of exterior and internal door hardware that can be tied or chained to prevent rapid exit or first responder access
☐ Vehicle screening, inspection, and monitoring (in parking lots, etc.)
☐ Facial recognition technology