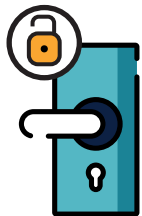


RESEARCH: LOCKED DOORS SAVE LIVES IN K-12 SCHOOLS

Key findings from Texas State University ALERRT Center
analysis of school-based active shooter events. (2000-2025)

WHAT THE DATA SAYS



69%

Of Attacker Entries Occurred
Through Unsecured Doors

HOW ATTACKERS GAINED ACCESS

(status of door is known at moment of attack)

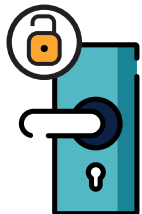


55%
unlocked



14%
propped open or
unsecured

VICTIMS BY DOOR STATUS



~3x

Casualties were 3X higher
behind unsecured doors

BREACH ATTEMPTS



2/3
gained entry



1/3
entry denied

100% of forced entries
occurred by breaking glass



LOCKS NOT DEFEATED

No locking mechanism in these events was defeated

THREAT PROFILE BY SCHOOL LEVEL

ELEMENTARY

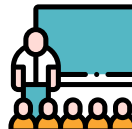


100%

of attackers were outsiders

Challenge: Exterior access control

MIDDLE & HIGH



85%

of attackers were current students

Challenge: Interior lockdown

WHAT SCHOOLS CAN DO: RESEARCH-BASED RECOMMENDATIONS

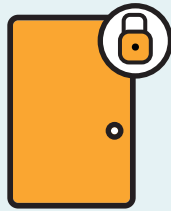
1



Functional Interior Locks

Ensure every classroom door can lock from the inside.

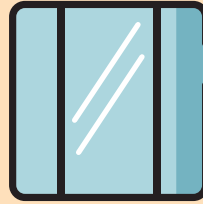
2



Secure Exterior Doors

Use a single monitored visitor entry point.

3



Assess and Upgrade Glazing

Review exterior doors and classroom glass features.

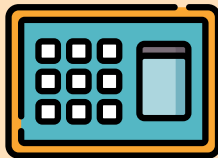
4



Build A Culture of Compliance

Door security protocols are non-negotiable expectations, not suggestions.

5



Rapid Lockdown Capability

Shorten lockdown interval through process improvement and technology.

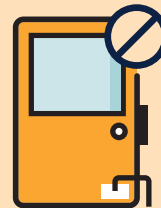
6



Adjust Strategy to School Level

Primary and secondary schools have different risk profiles.

7



Eliminate Magnets, Props and Barricades

Prohibit devices that prevent doors from latching, locking or unlocking as designed.



ACCESS THE
FULL REPORT



ALERT
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

