ASSESS. PLAN. DESIGN. INTEGRATE.

K-12 SECURITY

Safe by Design. Welcoming by Nature.

THE CHALLENGE

Schools must protect students, staff, and visitors without creating environments that feel institutional or distract from learning. Entrances, classrooms, circulation, site access, security technology, and operating procedures must work together, while remaining practical for staff to manage every day.

THE CHA APPROACH

CHA combines PreK-12 planning, architecture, engineering, and security expertise to create layered strategies tailored to each school and district. Guided by Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles and the fundamentals of **deter, detect, delay, and deny,** we integrate physical improvements, technology, and operational considerations into welcoming, student-centered learning environments.

Assess and Plan

Understand risk and prioritize investment.

CHA evaluates campuses, buildings, security systems, policies, and daily operations to identify vulnerabilities and improvement opportunities. We translate findings into prioritized, phased plans aligned with district needs, budgets, capital programs, and available funding.

CLEAR RISKS. ACTIONABLE PRIORITIES.

Campus and Building Security

Create welcoming layers of protection.

We integrate CPTED principles with thoughtful site and building design, addressing vehicle and pedestrian access, entrances, administrative visibility, interior circulation, classroom security, emergency response, and after-hours use. The result is a safer environment that remains open, intuitive, and student-centered.

WELCOMING SCHOOLS. SECURE BY DESIGN.

Technology and Operations

Connect systems, people, and procedures.

CHA coordinates access control, video surveillance, intrusion detection, visitor management, remote lockdown, and emergency communications with doors, hardware, electrical infrastructure, district protocols, and staff responsibilities. This unified approach creates systems that are easier to operate and manage.

CONNECTED SYSTEMS. PRACTICAL CONTROL.







ONE CAMPUS. MULTIPLE LAYERS OF PROTECTION. CHA considers security from the campus perimeter to the classroom door, aligning physical design, technology, policies, and school operations around one coordinated strategy.

A Layered Approach to Safer Schools.

EACH LAYER STRENGTHENS THE NEXT

Effective school security cannot depend on one entrance, device, or procedure. CHA connects the site, building, interior environments, technology, and operations to create overlapping layers of protection that support both everyday use and emergency response.

ASSESS
See the full picture

- District-wide and individual school assessments
- Physical security and vulnerability reviews
- Site access and perimeter evaluations
- Entrance, circulation, and classroom assessments
- Existing technology and infrastructure reviews
- Procedure evaluations
- Stakeholder interviews and operational observations

PLAN
Prioritize improvements

- Security master planning
- Risk-based prioritization
- Immediate, near-term, and long-term recommendations
- Budget planning and cost estimating
- Phased implementation strategies
- Coordination with capital improvement programs
- Emergency response and operational planning

DESIGN
Integrate protection

- Secure entrances
- Administrative visibility and visitor screening
- Classroom layouts, glazing, doors, and hardware
- CPTED strategies
- Site access, circulation, and protective barriers
- Perimeter fencing and controlled access
- Emergency responder access
- Building hardening

INTEGRATE
Connect technology, people, and procedures

- Electronic access control
- Video surveillance
- Intrusion detection
- Remote lockdown capabilities
- Visitor management
- Mass notification and emergency communications
- Door hardware and system coordination
- Security policies, procedures, and protocols

SECURITY ACROSS THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT. CHA provides owners with the visibility and field leadership needed to manage construction confidently. Our hands-on approach helps protect project priorities, address challenges early, and carry the owner's vision through final completion.

Campus & Perimeter
Vehicle approaches, parking, bus and parent circulation, pedestrian routes, fencing, landscaping, lighting, and emergency access form the school's outer layers of protection.

Main Entrance
A school's entrance must provide visibility, controlled access, visitor management, and staff oversight while creating a positive first impression.

Interior Circulation
Clear organization, appropriate zoning, access-controlled transitions, and visibility help staff oversee movement and limit unauthorized access.

Classrooms
Room layout, doors, hardware, interior and exterior glazing, and communication systems must support effective learning during daily use and provide protection during an emergency.

Shared Spaces
Athletic, performance, meeting, and recreation spaces can be zoned for public use while maintaining separation from academic areas.

THE CHA DIFFERENCE

Security Expertise Integrated with School Design

Security decisions affect the entire school environment. Entrance configuration influences administration and circulation. Electronic access control depends on coordinated doors, hardware, power, and communications. Site security must account for buses, parent vehicles, pedestrians, and emergency response.

CHA brings security professionals together with PreK-12 architects, civil engineers, electrical engineers, planners, and construction specialists to address these relationships as one coordinated system.

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