Alyssa's Law Update
Florida: The First 90 days

November 2021

1. Overview

Alyssa's Law was passed in Florida in July 2020 and is named after Parkland shooting victim Alyssa Alhadeff. The Law mandates Florida public and charter schools to install a panic alarm system activated by a mobile device to notify responders of emergencies or life-threatening situations. *A key requirement of the legislation is that all staff are equipped to activate an alert.*

In February, the Florida Department of Education (DOE) approved the CENTEGIX CrisisAlert solution for school districts to comply with Alyssa's Law. CrisisAlert is the only badge-based solution approved by the DOE and does not rely on a mobile phone application downloaded to a personal device.

Over 600 Florida schools have installed CENTEGIX's CrisisAlert, and *over 3200 staff and campus-wide alerts have been delivered since the beginning of the school year*. (This is in addition to 5500 drill or testing alerts).

CrisisAlert is unique among Alyssa's Alert providers because it has 100% user adoption and *achieves the legislation objective to equip all staff with the ability to activate an alert.*

CrisisAlert increases safety for school districts and promotes a positive learning environment because:

➢ Teachers report that incident response times are improved
➢ Teachers feel safer and supported and have embraced CrisisAlert
➢ District administration has data to understand the incidents in their schools

2. CrisisAlert has 100% adoption; the badge is easiest to use.

CENTEGIX understands the difficulty of using a mobile phone application in a crisis. There are many steps that a staff member must navigate – from having a phone easily accessible, having a network connection, and navigating to find the app, log in, and execute the correct steps to initiate an alert. All of these steps are challenging in a time of crisis.

We designed our solution with a wearable badge to equip staff with the fastest and easiest way to call for help. CENTEGIX has distributed nearly 60,000 badges to teachers and staff, enabling full user adoption.

With the wearable CrisisAlert badge, a staff member simply clicks 3 times to get help for an everyday emergency ("StaffAlert") or clicks 8+ times to initiate a campus-wide alert.

The wearable badge is the fastest and easiest way for staff to call for help and avoids the many barriers to using a mobile phone:

- User must download the application to either a personal or district-provided device.

- Phone must be on and easily accessible (and not in a purse or desk drawer).
- Phone must have a cell signal or be connected to the network.
- In an emergency, a user must find the phone, unlock it, find the app, log in to the app, and remember how to initiate an alert – all while also trying to manage the incident.

In an emergency, "fight or flight reactions" make it difficult to remember all these steps and have the fine motor skills needed to operate a mobile device. Fumbling with a mobile phone can cost critical seconds in response time.

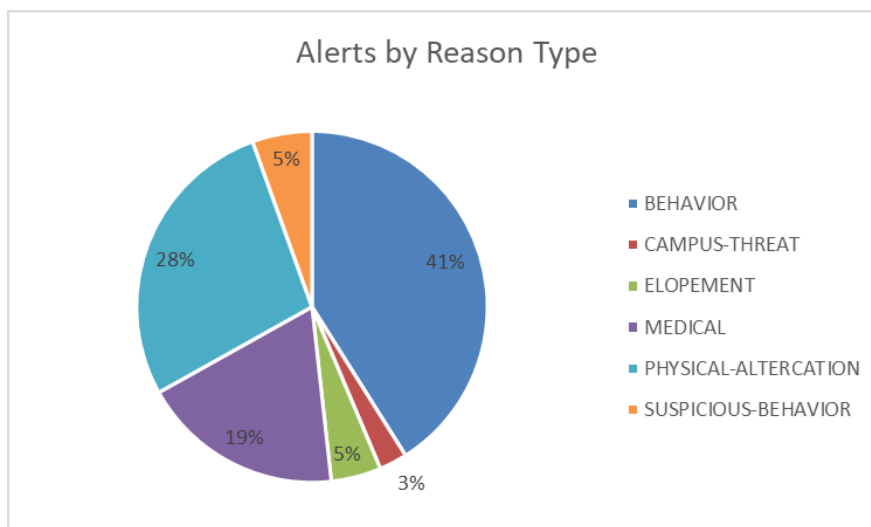| *Key Questions for Districts*	⇨ *What is your mobile panic button adoption rate?*
	⇨ *How many staff have downloaded the mobile phone application?*

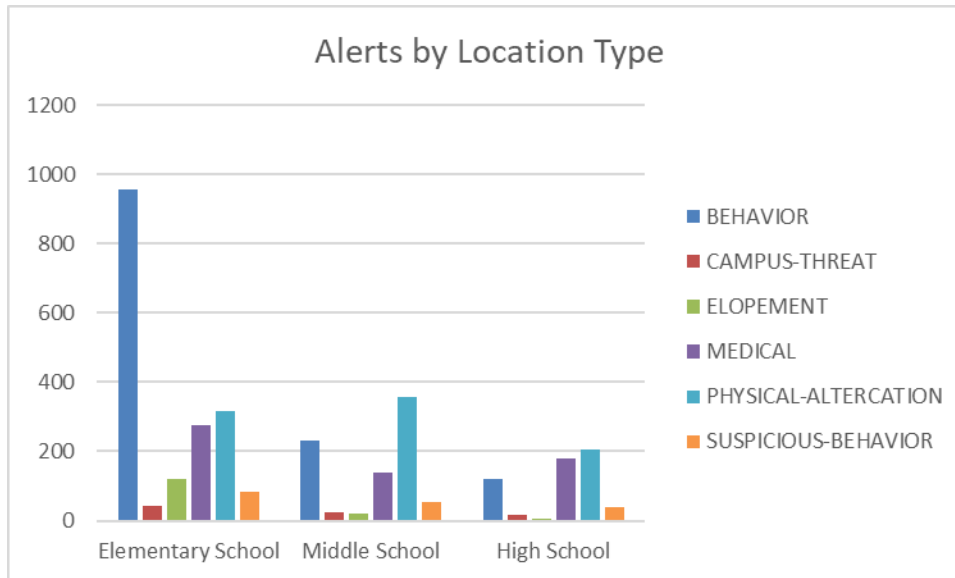## 3. CrisisAlert is used for everyday and extreme emergencies.

Since the beginning of the school year, the CrisisAlert platform has seen extensive use. In Florida, staff have used CrisisAlert to call for help in over 3200 emergencies. Alerts have been initiated for reasons ranging from everyday events such as medical emergencies and behavior situations to more extreme situations such as campus-wide events.

Using the CrisisAlert badge for everyday solutions is important so that staff are comfortable using it in any emergency, including staff and campus-wide alerts.
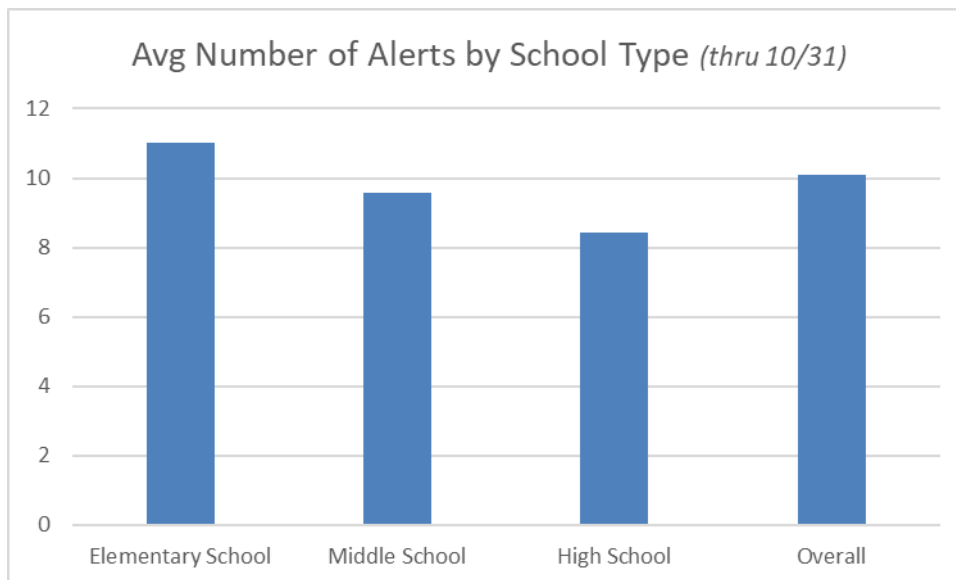
While the initial driver for Alyssa's Law was a campus-wide threat, platform data indicates 97% of CrisisAlert usage is in helping staff respond to everyday emergencies.

Alerts by Reason Type

- BEHAVIOR — 41%
- CAMPUS-THREAT — 3%
- ELOPEMENT — 5%
- MEDICAL — 19%
- PHYSICAL-ALTERCATION — 28%
- SUSPICIOUS-BEHAVIOR — 5%

Nearly 70% of incidents involve student behavior, and medical emergencies represent almost 20% of alerts.

Alerts by Location Type

A grouped bar chart titled "Alerts by Location Type" shows alert counts (y-axis 0 to 1200) for Elementary School, Middle School, and High School, broken down by category: BEHAVIOR, CAMPUS-THREAT, ELOPEMENT, MEDICAL, PHYSICAL-ALTERCATION, and SUSPICIOUS-BEHAVIOR.

While the volume of alerts from elementary schools is higher, the average usage per school type is generally consistent.

Avg Number of Alerts by School Type *(thru 10/31)*

A bar chart titled "Avg Number of Alerts by School Type (thru 10/31)" shows average alerts (y-axis 0 to 12) for Elementary School (~11), Middle School (~9.6), High School (~8.5), and Overall (~10.1).

Additionally, the CrisisAlert dashboard equips district administration with actionable data to understand how to support their schools.

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> *Key Questions for Districts*
>
> ⇨ *How often is your mobile panic button used?*
>
> ⇨ *What actionable data about incidents is your solution providing?*

4. CrisisAlert is appreciated and embraced by staff.

User surveys** from Florida schools indicate very high levels of satisfaction with CrisisAlert. Staff members who have used their badge have rated their experience with the platform as follows:

- ➤ How easy was it to use the badge?   4.9 out of 5
- ➤ Do you feel safer and supported as a staff member?   4.5 out of 5

Comments from users in these surveys indicate they experience faster response times from support staff, that the badge is the easiest solution to use in a crisis, and that having the badge contributes to peace of mind so they can focus on teaching.

Badge is Easy to Use

"Was able to get help without stopping to use the phone to get help."

"My student would have died or been severely brain damaged without the badge. "

"Being able to immediately have access to get help is great. Sometimes we can't get to the phone, or don't have one around. This way it ensures that we have access to help no matter where we are on campus."

"It's a quick and easy way to notify administration that they are needed immediately."

"It really cuts down on the "middle man" and ensures those on the receiving end are aware and able to assist far faster than anything else I have used before."

"Teachers or staff members can stay with students that are injured while getting prompt assistance in a confidential manner when appropriate."

"Sometimes when we had to use a radio, there might have been a problem with the radio not working. Also, there are times when I am walking with my students alone in the hall and another staff member is not immediately available to get help. This way, I can alert someone ASAP and take care of

the emergency knowing someone is on the way without having to wait for a response and to give my location."

"It is so nice to have a discreet call button for admin for when situations get out of hand."

Response Time
"It is quick and easy and the Crisis team on site are all alerted on the app on their phone where they can locate where I/we are on campus if we are not in my classroom."

"In the event of any crisis, whether it is an altercation or worse, there is no delay in receiving the appropriate support immediately. No ambiguity in communication because there is no verbal communication. It is a fantastic system."

"I was impressed with how quick the response was."

"In the past, if I needed someone to come to my room, it would sometimes take a long time for someone to come. This helped get someone to my room quickly."

"It was extremely helpful in a situation that normally would have taken longer to get assistance. All of the administrative team responded quickly and ready to help!"

"People come quicker with the alert than when we used to use a radio."

Feeling Safe
"It really made me feel safe in an emergency. I felt empowered to get the assistance I needed to ensure the safety of the students."

"It's a sense of security to know I can push the button and get administration to the scene quickly. It's also a peace of mind to know if there was a serious situation (like an active assailant) we could get help immediately."

"Our crisis team reacts within seconds. This alert system has provided me with the security of having reinforcements rapidly and effectively."

"We've had multiple staff alerts generated with the Centegix badges at our school this year. So far everything works as advertised, giving our monitoring team the site-specific information required for a rapid response. Often times people have a hard time articulating their location

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and responders may get less than clear location information, especially in a crisis situation. I've seen first-hand that it can significantly reduce confusion and most importantly response time. I strongly recommend the use of this system (for its intended use) to our staff."

"Using the badge was very effective in dealing with the medical emergency that I encountered. Help from administration was received in minutes and I was able to get the rest of my class inside quickly while administration took care of the needs of the child."

Key Questions for Districts	⇨ *What feedback do you have from staff about your mobile panic button solution?*
	⇨ *Do your teachers and staff appreciate your mobile panic button solution?*

CENTEGIX is grateful for the opportunity to protect the lives of students and staff in districts representing hundreds of schools across Florida. We are dedicated to our mission to innovate technology to save and enrich lives.

Reference:
- *CrisisAlert platform data includes alerts from Florida schools from August 1 to October 31.*
- *Usage data excludes 5500 drill and testing alerts.*
- *End user surveys conducted September 9 to October 31 via online form*