

CENTEGIX

DEMONSTRATING SUCCESS IN EDUCATION





2022 saw incredible developments in school safety.

Tired of lackluster responses to America's school violence epidemic, parents, students, and educators across the country pushed for proactive response resources throughout the year. Education leaders, administrators, and legislators faced significant public demand for increased action in countering school emergencies.

Preventing and responding to violent incidents in schools is a focus area for educators as students return to classrooms in the new year. Federal and state guidance identified a range of [school safety topics](#) schools are having to confront in 2023:

- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Cybersecurity
- Emergency planning
- Infectious diseases and public health
- Mental health
- School climate
- Targeted violence
- Threat assessment and reporting

Although technology has made it easier for threats and violence to reach classrooms, it has also enabled life-saving advancements in school safety. [Alyssa's Law](#) officially passed in New Jersey, Florida, and New York, and has reached legislators' desks in multiple other states. It addresses the problem of law enforcement response time during life-threatening emergencies in public schools through new safety requirements.

CENTEGIX believes that school should be a place where students can learn and grow safely and with a sense of well-being. As the leading provider of discreet, wearable emergency alert badges, CENTEGIX contributes to school safety by providing instantaneous communication with first responders in the event of any threat to the health and safety of students and educators.

In a crisis, every second matters. Our discreet CrisisAlert badge allows educators and first responders to meet Alyssa's Law requirements by placing the ability to signal for immediate assistance to emergencies in the hands of teachers, staff, and administrators.

Our wearable, mobile panic button has gained the attention of education leaders in some of the largest school districts in the country. By the end of 2022, we helped keep school districts safe in 28 states. Some of our largest partners include:



- Hillsborough County, Florida
- Palm Beach County, Florida
- Lake County, Florida
- Douglas County, Georgia
- Fulton County, Georgia
- Muscogee County, Georgia
- Clark County, Nevada
- Johnson County, Kansas

Because of successful efforts in school safety and violence prevention in Florida and Georgia, CENTEGIX [expanded into Texas](#) to empower staff to confront any emergency with confidence. CENTEGIX continues to lead in school safety as we've now expanded into 28 states. We support Alyssa's Law, and we're eager to work with the award-winning educators and campus security experts on our [advisory board](#) to continue improving school safety in 2023.



Alyssa's Law Passage in Florida



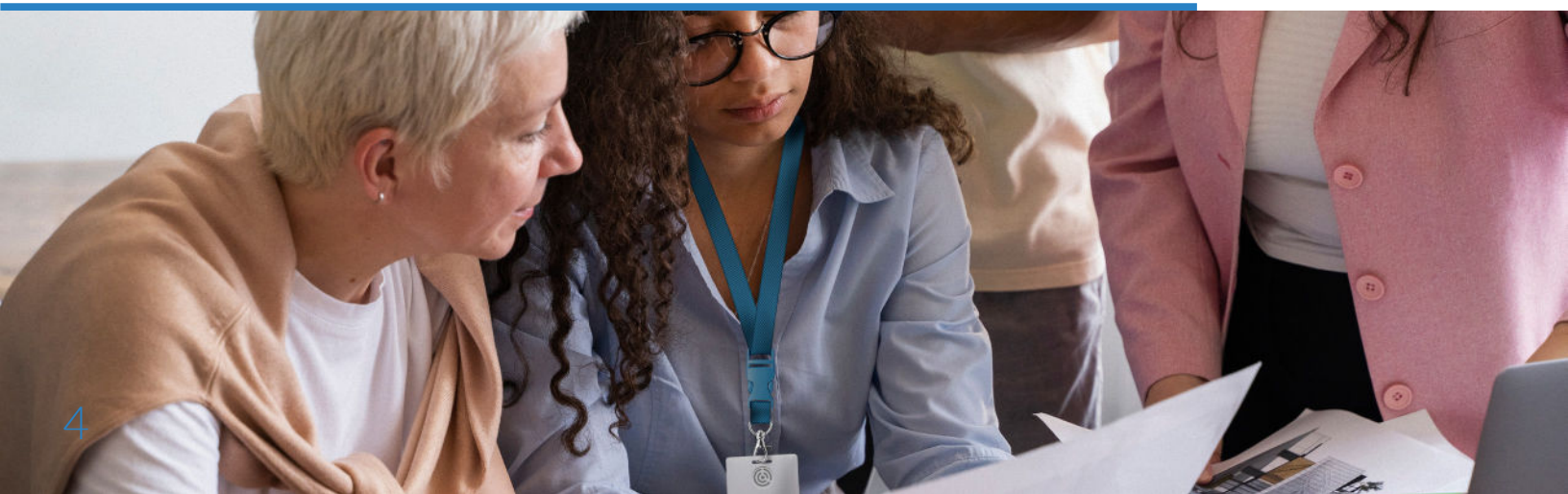
Named to honor Parkland shooting victim Alyssa Alhadeff, Florida passed Alyssa's Law in July 2020. The law [requires](#) "Florida public and charter schools to install a panic alarm system activated by a mobile device to notify responders of emergencies or life-threatening situations." A central component of the legislation is that any staff member can activate an alert. That's where CrisisAlert steps up to meet the challenge.


The CENTEGIX CrisisAlert badge is the [fastest and easiest](#) way for staff to call for help in any emergency. CrisisAlert immediately delivers alerts to public safety answering points (PSAPs) organizations responsible for receiving and processing 911 calls—and provides real-time location data for emergency incidents. The badge easily integrates with existing PSAP infrastructure and requires no installation on personal devices. It also functions seamlessly with existing systems and technologies in a facility—no interference.

In February 2022, the Florida Department of Education confirmed CrisisAlert as a solution for school districts to comply with Alyssa's Law. Thanks to CrisisAlert's 100-percent user adoption, over [600](#) Florida schools installed CrisisAlert in time for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. By the end of 2022, over 800 Florida schools had installed CrisisAlert. User surveys conducted in September and October of 2021 revealed [high](#) satisfaction levels with CrisisAlert. Florida school staff members rated CrisisAlert's ease of use at 4.9 points out of 5. When asked if staff felt safer and better supported with the emergency badge, members responded with 4.5 out of 5.

The quick adoption of CrisisAlert by Florida teachers and staff has already saved lives during the 2021-2022 school year. In the first three months of the school year, staff and teachers used CrisisAlert to summon help in over [3,200](#) emergencies—including medical, behavioral, or campus-wide events. We are proud to help protect nearly 30 percent of Florida classrooms spanning across four Florida county school districts:

- Hillsborough County
- Jackson County
- Palm Beach County
- St. Johns County





Hillsborough County manages over 25,000 district employees serving in some of the country's largest educational facilities; some Florida campuses cover over 40 acres. In late 2020, the county [equipped](#) every staff member with a CrisisAlert device.

Hillsborough School Superintendent Addison Davis called CrisisAlert “a chance to save lives,” affording teachers, students, and parents comfort and peace of mind. Chief of Security John Newman [described](#) CrisisAlert as a game changer for the school district. “You just press a button and the cavalry is coming in,” he said. “It tells us exactly where you are and who you are, so if you’re in building five, classroom 505, and you activate it, we’re coming to 505.”

Similarly, administrators at Palm Beach, Jackson, and St. Johns County School Districts chose CrisisAlert after Florida passed Alyssa’s Law in the wake of additional mass shootings. Last July, CENTEGIX [partnered with](#) the Palm Beach County School Board to install CrisisAlert at the majority of its 202 district schools by the start of the 2022 school year. District educators praise its ease of use and versatility in alert notification. “[CrisisAlert] is quick, and never underestimate the power of simplicity in an emergency,” Mike Strausbaugh, St. Johns County School District’s safety and security specialist, told [First Coast News](#). With the press of a button worn alongside the usual ID badges on a neck lanyard, teachers and staff in classrooms across the state can discreetly call for help at a second’s notice. “It’s the best one in the market in my opinion, as of right now,” Jackson County Schools’ Superintendent Steve Benton [remarked](#).

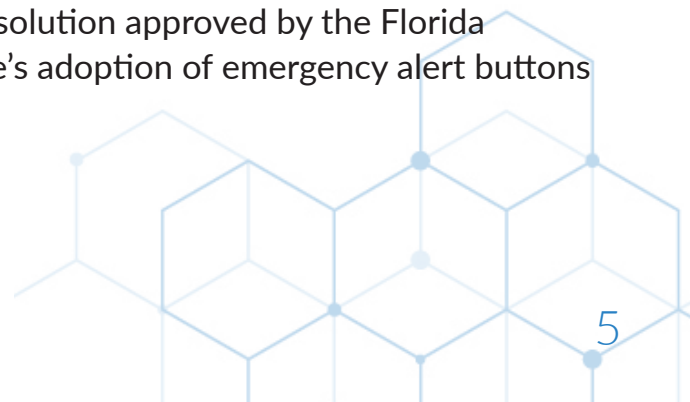
CENTEGIX Supports Safety Reform


CENTEGIX recognizes the value of working with community leaders to bring effective, promising change.

In 2022, we [partnered](#) with [Make Our Schools Safe](#) (MOSS), a 501(c)(3) national non-profit organization founded by Lori and Ilan Alhadeff, parents of Alyssa Alhadeff and champions of Alyssa’s Law and founders of MOSS. Their focus is on the response time of first responders in emergencies, calling for every school staff member nationwide to have a discreet panic alarm system connected directly to local law enforcement. MOSS’s inspiring efforts drive emergency panic solutions implementation in schools across the country.

CENTEGIX believes in the [MOSS](#) mission of “empowering staff and students to create and maintain a culture of safety and vigilance in a secure school environment.”

As the only wearable badge-based mobile panic button solution approved by the Florida Department of Education, CENTEGIX supports the state’s adoption of emergency alert buttons in compliance with Alyssa’s Law.





“Time equals life,” said Lori Alhadeff in an interview with [Insider](#), “and mobile panic buttons empower staff to get help quickly with immediate notification to 911 for quicker response times.”

Nationwide change starts with inspirational local leaders, like those at MOSS, who work to make their communities safe for everyone. As Brent Cobb, CEO of CENTEGIX, [told Insider](#), “We look forward to partnering with MOSS to drive awareness of the benefits of mobile panic buttons as a standard level of protection in schools.”

Keeping Texas Schools Safe

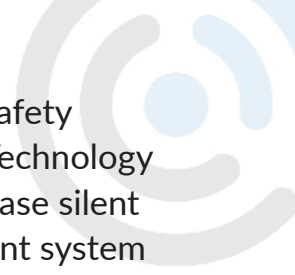
Our success doesn’t stop in Florida. CrisisAlert crosses state lines and brings safety and security to schools across Texas. After the Uvalde shooting, demand for mobile panic buttons [surged](#). We saw Texas teachers, students, and staff needing effective safety solutions. In March 2022, we hosted a “School Safety Trends and Legislation in Texas” [webinar](#), which brought together Texas education and law enforcement leaders to discuss:

- [How Texas districts use new technology to keep schools safe](#)
- [How safety tools empower teachers and staff while improving retention](#)
- [Senate Bill 11 and what it means for your district](#)
- [Anticipating Alyssa’s Law legislation](#)
- [Safety trends in Texas and nationwide](#)

For the most part, school safety measures in Texas are left up to individual school districts. However, the [state mandates](#) they enact various policies. To do so, the Texas government established a handful of [state agency programs](#) that work together on school safety topics. These agencies include:

- [Texas Education Agency](#) – oversees primary and secondary public education
- [Texas School Safety Center](#) – a clearinghouse for disseminating safety and security information for K-12 schools and junior colleges
- [Texas School Safety](#) – expands mental health initiatives, strengthens safety protocols, provides funds to increase campus safety and security
- [Texas Division of Emergency Management](#) – administers statewide emergency management all-hazards preparedness program

State programs often collaborate, though they also enforce initiatives independently. For example, the Texas School Safety Center began [random intruder detection audits](#) of schools at the start of the 2022-2023 school year. The Center’s goal is to inspect 100-percent of school districts and 75-percent of college campuses in the state by the end of the school year.



The Texas Education Agency (TEA) also [invests](#) in the immediate need for school safety resources. This past October, the TEA released the 2022-2024 Silent Panic Alert Technology Grant program, which provides local education agencies with grant funds to purchase silent panic alert technology solutions for school safety. This technology generates a silent system signal through the activation of a device in an emergency. The signal requires a response from law enforcement or the appropriate first responders. Additionally, the Texas State Board of Education recently approved the 2023-2025 School Safety Standards Formula Grant. The grant allows for pre-award for school safety items purchased on or after June 1st, 2022.

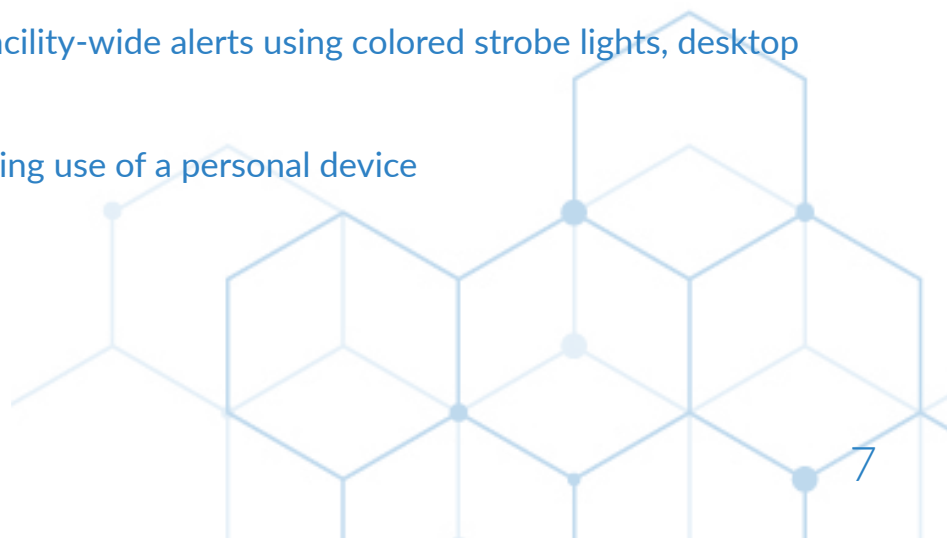
CrisisAlert meets and [exceeds](#) TEA Program Requirements for the Silent Panic Alert Technology and School Safety Standards Grants. With the help of government grants, CENTEGIX is eager to assist Texas schools in implementing innovative safety solutions throughout 2023.

Protecting Staff and Students in 2023 with CrisisAlert

Maintaining a productive school climate starts with ensuring students and teachers feel safe in the spaces they visit nearly every day: their classrooms. If students feel unsafe at school, they cannot learn. A negative school climate [dramatically impacts](#) student health and is directly linked to decreased graduation rates and increases in violence, bullying, and suicide.

Effective school safety plans mitigate the uncertainty and fear surrounding the threat of emergencies on school grounds. When students feel safe and comfortable at school, their success skyrockets. CENTEGIX brings safety solutions to schools that help students reach their full potential. CrisisAlert enables emergency communications with first responders anytime and anywhere on campus. Our innovative panic alert badge includes a [remote panic system](#) featuring:

- Instant and discreet alerts at the touch of a button
- Immediate notification of key designated personnel and first responders
- Precise alert coordinates including floor and room location
- Audio and visual notifications for facility-wide alerts using colored strobe lights, desktop alerts, and intercom integration
- 100% user adoption without requiring use of a personal device





The last thing teachers and students should have to think about is what to do in an emergency. With CrisisAlert, staff no longer need to struggle with their phones during a crisis to reach first responders. Instead, with CrisisAlert's button at their fingertips, they can instantly and silently summon help. Knowing they have this capability provides peace of mind. More importantly, in a life-threatening emergency, it can save lives.

CENTEGIX is the leader in incident response solutions. Our CrisisAlert platform is the fastest and easiest way for staff to call for help in any emergency, from the everyday to the extreme. CENTEGIX creates safer spaces, and leaders nationwide trust our safety solutions to provide peace of mind. To learn more about CENTEGIX, visit www.centegix.com.



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