

CENTEGIX® Impact Story

Saving Lives Comes Down to Seconds: How Immediate Notifications and Response Prevented Tragedy



The Threat

- On September 25, 2025, during dismissal at 2:30:20 PM at S.L. Mason Elementary School in Valdosta, Georgia, **an armed individual began shooting** off campus just outside the school's parent and visitor entrance.
- At the time, **students were moving to buses, car lines, and daycare pickup**, with buses already loaded and ready to depart.
- Two nearby law enforcement officers—the school resource officer (SRO) on campus and a local officer patrolling along the perimeter—heard the gunfire as **the suspect moved onto school grounds and began approaching the main entrance**.

The Response

- Within 37 seconds** (2:30:20 to 2:30:57 PM), an assistant principal who was outside at the bus loading area **initiated a lockdown using their CrisisAlert™ badge**.
- The system **immediately locked down the campus, triggering strobes, intercom messages, and computer takeovers**, alerting staff and students both inside and outside the building.
- Following trained lockdown protocols**, buses with their riders left campus safely while staff ushered remaining students indoors to secure areas.
- The **SRO engaged and stopped the armed threat** approaching the school. Additional law enforcement arrived **within three minutes**, confirming the threat was neutralized. **No students, staff, or parents were injured**.



If you want something that's actionable, where it's going to notify your entire campus without you having to utilize anything else that's on your person, then this is the solution for you. Money always comes up because it has to, but this, for us—on many occasions but definitely on September 25th—it proved that you cannot put a price on safety. CrisisAlert truly helped save lives for us that day.



Sabrina Smith, Director of Safety & Security, Valdosta City Schools, GA

VALDOSTA
CITY SCHOOLS



8,400+
students



2K
faculty and staff



14
campuses

Post-Incident Leadership Insights



Director Smith: "When you have a solution like CENTEGIX and you have the different methods of notification—the computer takeover, the strobes, the intercom message—your response is so much quicker...**You don't have any of that apprehension about what's going on.**"



Dr. Lockhart: "This entire event was **all done within three minutes**. It just shows just how critical three minutes actually is. **Saving lives comes down to seconds.** And CENTEGIX was able to cut through a lot of the misunderstandings because we knew there was a lockdown, we knew we needed to respond, and we knew where to go."

Seconds matter, and in a crisis we're not always thinking clearly. CENTEGIX was able to put information out immediately. It issued the alert, told us it was a lockdown, and we executed the protocols. There was no time for miscommunication about whether it was a lockdown, a fire, or a medical event. Everybody knew what to do, and they were able to spend more time focusing on the response instead of the communication.

Dr. Craig Lockhart, Superintendent, Valdosta City Schools, GA



**Hear Exactly
How the Incident
Unfolded**