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Video

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Two school districts in Nassau County marked the first day of school with the implementation of a new system that ties together surveillance, interactive maps, and an app to keep students safe.

The app called "Alert Domain Awareness System" enables school administrators to get in touch with emergency personnel at the touch of a button during an active shooter situation. It was developed by a Massapequa-based company named Intralogic Solutions.

If a school where to ever need help, CEO of Intralogic Lee Mandel says administrators "can hit the lockdown application on their phone. Once they hit that, it immediately connects them directly to the 911 center, and before they even speak to the 911 operator, the live floor plans, the interactive map, the cameras are all being pulled up live." Mandel says the app was created so that officials can potentially locate the shooter before police arrive on the scene.

"So when they do arrive to the scene, now the dispatcher can remotely open the door, so there's no question about how the cops are going to get in the building. And when they're in the building, we can literally guide them over the radio system, turn left, turn right, so they can apprehend the active shooter," Mandel explained.

The app has just been deployed in the Bellmore School District and in the Merrick School District. Mandel says 12 other districts are in the process of deploying it as well. As for the cost, Nassau County is footing the \$1.4 million for the app and the county executive says it may be used for other facilities besides schools.

"This could be rolled out into other critical infrastructures that have that technology of closed circuit cameras," County Executive Ed Mangano said.

While not everyone can use the app to declare an active shooter situation, anyone can use it to directly get in touch with 911. Mandel says seconds save lives and making immediate connections could make all the difference.

Tags [Long Island](#) [3] [News](#) [4] [Education](#) [5] [Cecilia Dowd](#) [6] [App](#) [7] [Bellmore School District](#) [8] [Ed Mangano](#) [9] [Intralogic Solutions](#) [10] [Merrick School District](#) [11] [Shooter Situation](#) [12]

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- [5] <http://www.fios1news.com/longisland/education>
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