TECH TALK



Silent Panic Alert For K-12 Classrooms

There are many challenges in modern K-12 education, but perhaps the most pressing issue is campus safety. Emergency situations can be triggered by a weather event, a facility malfunction, or an intruder who intends to do harm.

Teachers are often the first contact in an on-campus emergency, and need to be equipped with the best technology to promote safety and security.

It's important that schools take safety seriously and stay up-to-date with campus safety standards. However, implementing security systems can be tricky and might not integrate with other technologies without significant cost, if at all.

This is why TeachLogic developed a "security alert" feature integrated into its classroom audio systems. As a leading manufacturer of wearable teacher microphones, it was a natural feature to add to an already valuable technology. The teacher can trigger the alert regardless of where they are in the classroom. And this feature doesn't cost any addition money nor require any additional hardware from TeachLogic.



And as odd as it may sound, our classroom audio systems enable a silent alert to enable compliance with legislation like Alyssa's Law.

Not just another expensive standalone system

The ever-present challenge of funding for K-12 education often calls for the most cost-effective solution to be implemented. However, for schools to remain current with campus safety standards, it often requires adding a costly new system.

In the current landscape of K-12 education spaces, about 95% of public schools utilize some form of intercom/paging system that provides back-and-forth communication from the administration offices to each classroom. These intercom systems represent a complex wiring environment that would be quite expensive to replicate.

Our technology allows a teacher to wirelessly activate the emergency button for the existing intercom system through our pendant microphone—a device that is designed to wear at all times.



Within reach at all times

The "security alert" function is activated with our Sapphire™ pendant style wireless microphone.

When pushed and held for 3 seconds, the Sapphire wirelessly transmits a "security alert" signal to its associated amplifier/receiver. This amplifier/receiver directs that signal to a rear-panel contact closure that acts as a switch—it closes when activated by the amplifier/receiver as part of an emergency response system (ERS).

Amplify learning while increasing safety

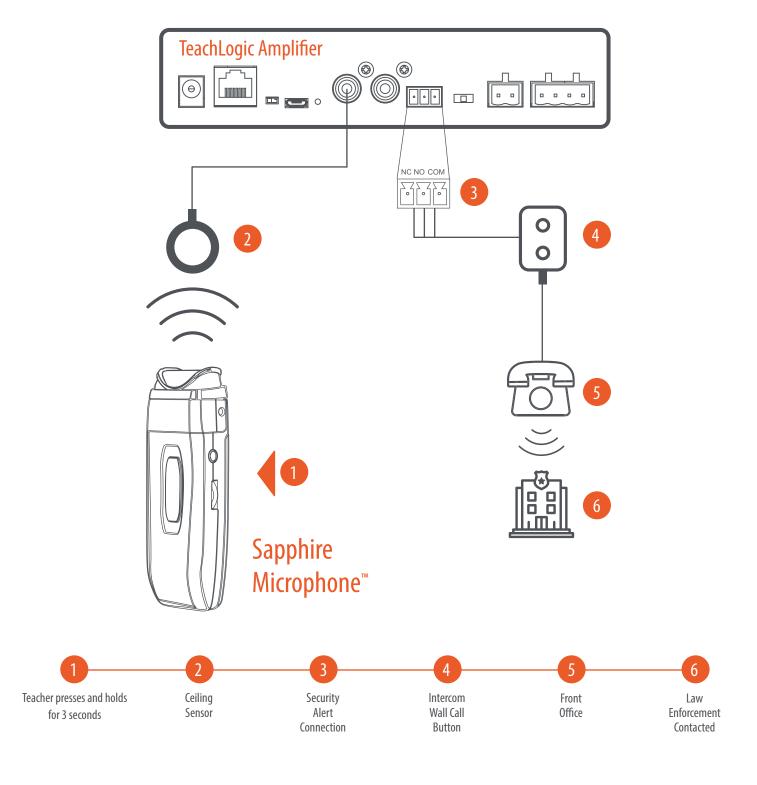
faschool is budgeting for a campus safety system with a silent panic alert and/or considering an instructional audio system for their classrooms, TeachLogic provides a simple solution that allows these systems to integrate through their amplifier/receiver and implement two critical solutions for the price of one.

The wireless microphone helps teachers effectively engage students for daily instruction and stays within reach should an emergency occur. At only 1.4 oz, TeachLogic makes the lightest pendent microphone in its class, convenient for all-day use without changing how a teacher goes about their day.

How does the alert get to the office?

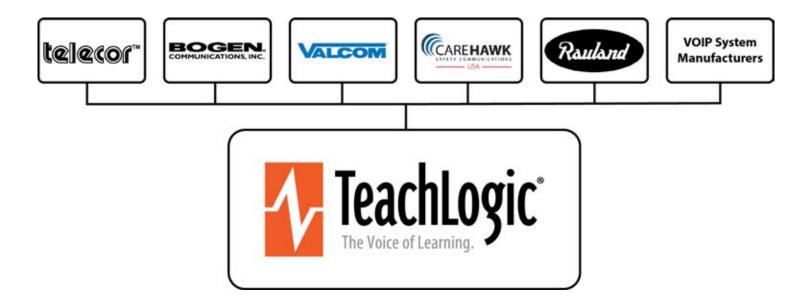
The teacher can send an alert by reaching for the microphone around their neck. When pushed and held for 3 seconds, the TeachLogic microphone generates a wireless alert signal received by one of its associated amplifiers.

The amplifier directs the wireless signal to a rear-panel contact closure which acts as a switch. This activates the intercom system's emergency alert function.



You have more options than ever before when it comes to keeping students safe.

At TeachLogic, we have spent a great deal of time collaborating with the major manufacturers of intercom products to develop a system that interfaces directly with theses intercom systems to "pass" the panic alert to the main administration office. Then using the master intercom control panel, the main office can immediately pinpoint the location of the security alert event. When first responders arrive, they can be dispatched to the scene.



This is all accomplished very easily with the TeachLogic system. It's a simple 2-conductor wire connection between the contact closure of the TeachLogic amplifier and the wall-mounted intercom call button panel. We are simply creating a "short" across-the-call button terminal that would then normally send the signal from the call button panel down the intercom lines from the classroom to the main administration office.

Once the alert has been generated it may be possible to audibly monitor the classroom and the ongoing event.

If the intercom/paging system utilizes a talkback type loudspeaker in the classroom, then that loudspeaker can be switched to its "talkback" mode. This is like having a microphone to listen in on the entire classroom. For more information, please contact us.

Emergency Alert



Are you seeking *Alyssa's Law* or other safety compliance?

What is Alyssa's Law?

Alyssa's Law is critical legislation addressing the issue of law enforcement response time when a life-threatening emergency occurs because time equals life. The law calls for the installation of silent panic alarms that are directly linked to law enforcement, so in case of any emergency they will get on the scene as quickly as possible. It is named after Alyssa Alhadeff, a 14-year-old student and victim in the Parkland, Florida mass school shooting in 2018.

Legislation passed in these states:



New Jersey (February 6, 2019): Governor Murphy Signs Alyssa's Law" (A764)

Florida (June 30, 2020): Alert Systems in Public Schools (CS/CS/SB 70)

New York (June 23, 2022): Authorizes school boards to include information regarding the installation of a panic alarm system in any school in the district in the district-wide safety plan (Senate Bill S7132A)

Texas (May 5, 2023): A Bill to be Entitled an Act (HB204, HB669, SB838)

Tennessee (May 10, 2023): Education - As enacted, revises various provisions of present law relative to safety in elementary and secondary education and the Schools Against Violence in Education Act. (HB0322, SB0274)

Legislation pending in these states:



Arizona: Introduced Fifty-fifth Legislature 1st and 2nd Regular (HB2803, HB2683)

Georgia: To require local education agencies to implement a mobile panic alert system. (HB3101)

Nebraska: Provide for a statewide school panic button program (LB1156)

Oregon: Relating to school safety; declaring an emergency. Requires schools to have wireless panic alert device in each classroom of each school building. (HB3101)

Virginia: School boards; parental notification of certain incidents, Alyssa's law-silent panic alarms. (HB1125)

Michigan: Panic alarm for use in a school security emergency (AB4241 & AB4242)

Massachusetts: Panic alarm for use in a school security emergency (HB3881)

Want more information on Alyssa's Law?

Alyssa's mother, Lori Alhadeff founded a nonprofit organization, Make Our Schools Safe, which is aimed at providing safety features tailored to the specific needs of schools. With her help, the legislation was expedited in the wake of the tragedy and the final version of the law was named in Alyssa's memory. Visit https://makeourschoolssafe.org/ for more information.