

Securing Education Environments: Key Considerations

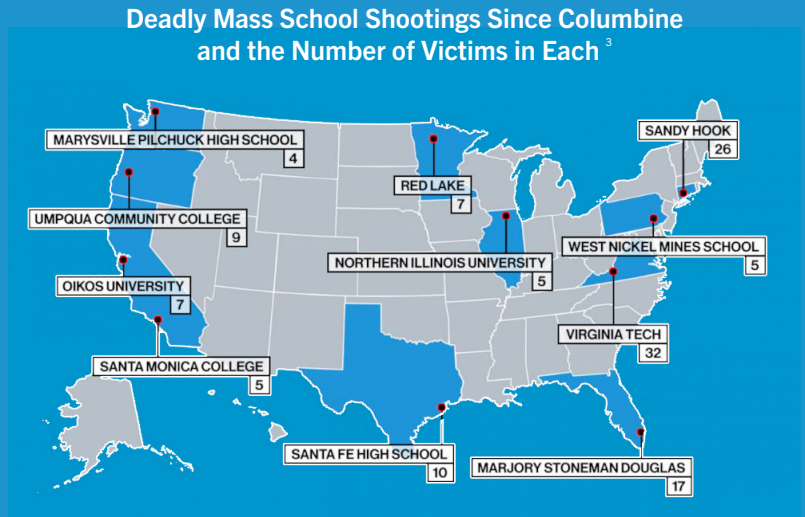


March 2020 was the first March since 2002 without a school shooting in the U.S.¹

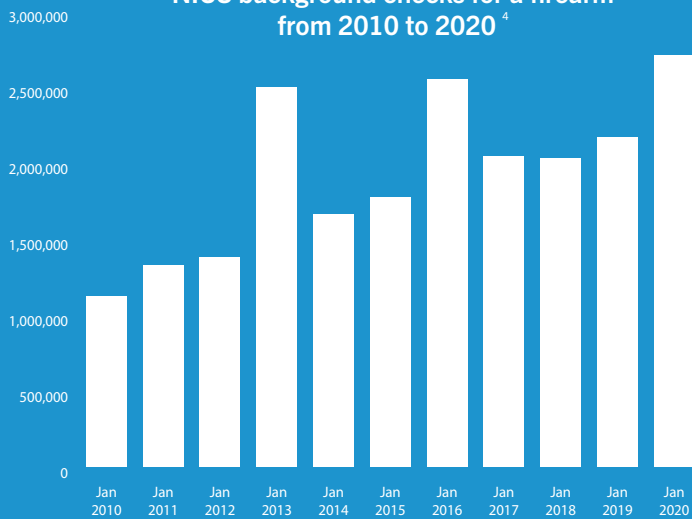
10 years.²

180 school shootings.

356 victims.²



NICS background checks for a firearm from 2010 to 2020⁴



3 Million

more firearms have been purchased since March of 2020 than ordinarily sold at this time.⁵

Intelligent entrance and access control solutions are increasingly being sought out to reduce risk and combat ever changing threats in education facilities.

¹ CBS News April 12, 2020- March 2020 was the first March without a school shooting in the U.S. since 2002

² CNN News- 10 years. 180 school shootings. 356 victims.

³ ABC News April 19, 2019- The 11 mass deadly school shootings that happened since Columbine

⁴ NICS Firearms Checks: Month/Year- National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS)

⁵ Brookings July,13,2020-Three million more guns: the Spring 2020 spike in firearm sales



Creating an Environment Conducive to Learning

1

Common Challenges

When considering entrance control for education environments.

Education institutions have a shared commitment to providing a secure and safe environment for students to learn and staff to teach. Yet with rising active shooter events and the rapidly evolving and unprecedented nature of the current pandemic, better physical security solutions are increasingly being sought. This will help education organizations take proactive measures to combat threats to students, staff, personal data and property in instructional environments.

Students, staff and visitors don't want to feel like they're entering a high-security prison when they arrive on campus. When people enter a learning environment, whether as an everyday user or a visitor, their main concern should be on the day's activities, not the process of gaining access to the building itself.

The key to designing an entrance control solution for this kind of environment is maintaining an open and welcoming feel, allowing a free flow of authorized pedestrian traffic while simultaneously providing a secure facility.

Users of successful entrance control systems should rest assured that a potential intruder will be stopped from entering - and that the system itself minimizes the risk of spreading infection - without experiencing any frustration that their free movement is being hindered. There has to be little or no delay between an authorized person presenting their credentials at the turnstile and access being granted.

In this white paper, we will explore a high-level overview of some of the most notable technology innovations that have driven intelligent entrance control and how you can incorporate next-generation intelligence in your security products and policies.

Reassuring Parents, Rather than Adding Concern

2

Heightening your entrance control shouldn't damage your school's reputation. You may have concerns that parents will be worried that their children are attending an unsafe school by increasing security measures.

If the solution is designed correctly and you can get the first point right, balancing security with user experience, parents shouldn't feel concerned. Instead, they should be assured that the school is doing everything they can to better protect their students, staff, and visitors from unwanted intruders and contamination.

Providing 24/7 Security and Controlling Populations

3

University campuses are in use 24 hours a day, whether that's with students studying late at night in the library before finals or arriving back at their residence after an evening out. Now more than ever, facilities such as libraries are likely to be in use at all times of day and night, as students seek quieter times to ensure they can adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Therefore, an entrance control system must allow ease of access at any time while continuing to provide a safe environment. Leaving security managers to feel confident that their system will not fail when there is reduced security staff on site. Limiting the number of people in a given area will also be crucial for managers of facilities, to ensure populations don't exceed maximum, unsafe numbers.

Fastlane® turnstiles can be integrated seamlessly with every known access control system, such as the intelligent [SmarterAccess](#), and CCTV to provide surveillance of turnstile use and allow an 'eyes-on' response to be deployed to any security events. And, with either SmarterAccess or the [Fastlane Multilane Controller](#), you can easily monitor and control the population density of your library, cafeteria, sports facility, student union etc. from one screen.

The Benefits Don't Stop at Security

4

Protecting people and assets may be the primary objective of an entrance control system, but there are many other added benefits to consider.

CCTV, intruder alarms, fire detection and business management systems can all be integrated, allowing school officials to monitor attendance, manage visitor access, reduce energy usage in unused areas at off-peak times, analyze data about how and when facilities are used, and much more.

Campus libraries are central to student life, and monitoring their use with turnstiles and access control systems ensures that only authorized users are admitted and enables a wealth of useful information to be captured. This can benefit the administration in terms of staff planning, budget control and other management planning.

Specialist software integrated into the turnstiles can also display useful information for the students, such as book return information or room changes, further reducing administration involvement.

Monitor and Control Multiple Sites Remotely

5

Turnstiles can be used throughout campus to monitor and protect different areas, for example, student residences, dining and recreational facilities, and libraries – wherever you need only to allow access to authorized individuals, or monitor and control numbers.

If you wanted to install turnstiles at various locations around the same campus, you could remotely monitor and control them using the Fastlane FastCmd app from one central command site.

Fighting COVID-19

Creating a safe environment by utilizing flexible entrance control customizations

Agile product development has always been key to Smarter Security's entrance and access control solutions' success, and our customers play a vital role as insightful product developers.

Never has the need for rapid product development been greater than currently, with the impacts of the Coronavirus being felt worldwide, and universities, colleges, and schools having to undergo a plethora of swift modifications to ensure the safety of students, staff and visitors.

Over recent months, our team has been developing various flexible customizations to help our customers solve challenges that directly result from the pandemic, including Smarter Security's new universal post mount solution, SmarterMount.

SmarterMount is a versatile integrated post upon which an endless array of solutions can be mounted, such as infrared cameras, signs, or sanitation dispensers. SmarterMount can be purchased as an option with new orders or a retrofit for thousands of existing Fastlanes.

SOLUTIONS

- Monitoring and controlling the population density of a facility from one screen.
- Users can seamlessly gain entry to a building without having to touch anything.
- Utilizing thermal scanners to determine people's body temperatures as they enter the building, denying access to anyone with a high temperature.
- Recognizing protective face masks and identifying authorized users without causing delays.



FASTLANE GLASSGATE 150

Standard rounded pedestals
Custom etched logo on glass barriers
Integrated with access control systems

Location: North Dining Hall, University of Notre Dame



Key Considerations When Specifying Entrance Control

You know you need an entrance control solution to better protect your students and faculty, but with so many options to choose from, it can be challenging to know where to start.

To ensure you choose an entrance control solution which is suitable for your education environment and its users, ask yourself these questions:



HOW MANY TURNSTILES DO I NEED?

Think about the number of people entering and exiting the facility, and don't forget about the required throughput, or flow of people, during peak and off-peak times.

Your maximum capacities have likely reduced due to pandemic social distancing measures, so keep in mind the levels you need to set now, with the potential to increase them in the future as normality resumes.



WHO USES THE AREA?

Keep in mind the people using the building, for example, permanent staff, visitors, students, people with reduced mobility, delivery drivers etc. Should everyone entering/exiting the facility have access to all areas beyond the turnstiles? Or will you also need to secure other building areas, such as a server room or the bursar's office, and only grant access to specific individuals? Do you need to have the capability to arrange temporary access for visitors? How will these people be processed?



WHAT LEVEL OF SECURITY IS REQUIRED?

What are you protecting – your students, faculty, assets, data, all of these? If you understand the value of what you're protecting and the risks associated with an intruder, you can determine the security level you require.

The question of whether you need to deter unauthorized access attempts physically, or monitor the flow of people into/out of your facility, and consider what barrier height is most suitable. The higher the barrier, the higher the security, but the turnstiles' look needs to be in keeping with the environment they are securing.



WHAT FUNCTIONS ARE THEY REQUIRED TO PERFORM?

Through product integrations. Turnstiles can perform various other functions like integrating data from existing disparate systems. SmarterLobby integrates these systems, bringing critical context to access permission decisions such as whether a person is carrying a concealed weapon, or if crowds of protesters are gathering. They can also deliver time and space efficiencies, gathering real-time building population data and recording live video of turnstile use and security events.

Do you have an existing access control system that needs to be integrated with the turnstiles? Is there a requirement for other integrations, such as library management systems, or enhanced active shooter protection with [ballistic resistant glass barriers?](#)

The integration gaining most interest at present is, unsurprisingly, [touchless entrance and access control solutions](#). Do you need to consider infection control?



HOW DO I WANT THE TURNSTILES TO LOOK?

You can tailor the look of turnstiles to reflect your University's brand. When considering design, think about the environment the turnstiles will be in, what finish would complement the building's style - metal type, paint color, natural wood, etc.

Do you wish to feature your college's crest or colors? Working with such an array of different finishes allows us to produce some truly individual turnstiles, regardless of the environment you're working with.



WHAT'S THE TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP?

Cost considerations of an entrance control system should take in more than just the purchase and installation costs. Other things to think about include electricity usage, maintenance requirements, reliability, warranty and more, to give you the total cost of ownership and a holistic view of the better value purchase.



CUSTOMER PROFILE

Location

Notre Dame, Indiana

Enrollment / Employees

8,425 (undergraduates)

Product

Fastlane® Glassgate 150



It was important to us that any changes we implemented would allow students move in and out of the building quickly and efficiently. Indiana winters can be tough! We also needed to make sure that the solution was consistent with our vision for the interior update.

- Robert Casarez, Senior Business and Technology Specialist for Auxiliary Operations at the University of Notre Dame

Improving Throughput at the University of Notre Dame's Dining Facility

The University of Notre Dame in Indiana installed Fastlane Glassgate 150s – with custom monograms screen-printed on the glass gates – to manage student access to the dining facility.

In the past, students were required to wait in line outside, often in freezing temperatures, while staff manually verified their credentials before allowing access to the dining facility. Installing an access control system featuring Fastlane turnstiles increased the entry speed ten-fold. Eliminating the queues outside and allowing data to be collected, which is used to plan food production schedules.

The physical barriers of the Glassgate 150 provide extra security, and linking to the fire system also offers additional safety for staff and students. The turnstiles aren't just functional; the units' sleek styling also complements the refurbished dining hall's new, contemporary décor.

The University's experience of using Fastlane turnstiles has been so positive that they are now looking at other campus locations to implement.



Securing Cleveland State University's Student Accommodation

When Cleveland State University (CSU) decided to develop into a more traditional campus-style, Euclid Commons student halls of residence was developed.

CSU aimed to provide a secure environment for student residents and reassure parents of their safety by installing a first-class security system to control access to the apartment-style accommodation, which would house over 600 students in four buildings.

The University wanted a system that would stop unauthorized entries without residents feeling like they were living in a cage, so Fastlane Plus lanes were chosen to provide the required security level while also complementing the buildings' state-of-the-art features. Because of its sleek design, Fastlane Plus again proved to be the most suitable choice due to the limited space available in the lobby. A modification was made to the base unit, making the alarm sound louder and more obtrusive to better cut through even the most audible student background noise. The University decided that metal barrier arm units would be more suitable than glass barriers due to cost and durability.



**CLEVELAND STATE
UNIVERSITY**

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Location

Cleveland, Ohio

Enrollment / Employees

6,000 / 1,600

Product

Fastlane® Plus



These days, parents give considerable weight to safety/security when selecting a university for their kid to attend. To aid in giving parents peace-of-mind, this university has been committed to having first-class security at our new residence hall. We are protecting the parents' and our most valuable asset...the students.

- *Kenneth Murphy, Director of Security
at Cleveland State University*

About Smarter Security

Smarter Security is North America's preeminent security company for Entrance and Access Control. Unlike other solutions, our Fastlane® turnstiles, Door Detective®, SmarterLobby, and ReconaSense® all harness the power of advanced neural network technology to provide unrivaled intelligence to pedestrian access control. We provide seamless security for some of the world's most iconic buildings, including over 50% of the Fortune 100 and thousands of commercial, campus, and government lobbies. With Smarter Security, organizations achieve a layered security strategy with a lower total cost of ownership. Visit www.smartersecurity.com.

For more information, email us at info@smartersecurity.com or call us at **800.943.0043**

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Smarter Security

More intelligent. More secure.



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