



Evidence-Based Safety and Security Decisions Regarding Classroom Barricade Devices

Each school tragedy seems to reignite the conversation regarding the use of classroom door barricade devices (non-code-compliant blocking devices). These devices provide a false perception of safety. Here are some facts about why using classroom door barricade devices is dangerous:

Evacuation. Vital fire and life safety codes have been developed over decades; often based on lessons learned from tragedies. Classroom door barricade devices can prevent children from being able to evacuate during an emergency, including a fire.

Emergency Response. Door barricade devices can make it challenging, or even impossible, for responders to access the room quickly if there is an assailant inside, or if someone needs medical attention. In these critical situations, every second counts. If emergency responders cannot enter quickly, lives could be at risk.

Accessibility. Untrained students, teachers, people with disabilities and community groups utilizing the school building may not be familiar with the operation of barricade devices or may have difficulty using devices that do not comply with federal ADA law. This not only negates any safety features but could result in performance issues leading to deadly consequences.

Safety for everyone, in every situation, every day.

All students, educators, staff, and visitors, regardless of age or ability, deserve to be safe in a school building. There are many ways to improve school safety and security without the use of door barricade devices. For more information on classroom door barricade devices, please visit our website at PASSK12.org.

About Us

PASS is a 501c3 non-profit organization comprised of parents, educators, law enforcement, and security professionals with the sole purpose of improving school safety. It is our mission to provide schools with information, tools, and insight to enhance school safety.



¹ https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Malloy-Archive/Sandy-Hook-Advisory-Commission/SHAC_Final_Report_3-6-2015.pdf?sc_lang=en&hash=BDF55EC4ACE382E87941870AD9BF2A34

² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/04/26/AR2007042602558.html>

³ <https://www.denverpost.com/2006/09/27/hostage-horror/>

⁴ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/23/AR2007082300243.html>

⁵ <https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Data-research-and-tools/US-Fire-Problem/Fires-by-occupancy-or-property-type>

⁶ <https://www.fbi.gov/about/partnerships/office-of-partner-engagement/active-shooter-resources>

FACTS

A classroom door lock has **NEVER** been breached during an active shooter event.¹

In past school shootings, doors barricaded by the assailants have **delayed emergency responders.**^{2,3,4}

In an educational facility, a fire is more than **1000x** more likely to occur than an active shooter event.^{5,6}