



## Kingsley Area Schools

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To Whom It May Concern,

Five years ago, I had a student bring a handgun which he proceeded to load in a classroom full of students. While we never determined his exact intent, at the time his two statements were either to shoot a classmate or commit suicide. Regardless, that incident led me to begin an extensive search into how best to increase student safety. Unfortunately, many products provide the illusion of safety while solely relying on the criminal to behave like a normal person would or simply were not feasible nor practical in keeping students safe. The second I saw The Boot I knew that this was a product that would provide immediate safety to the greatest number of students.

A couple of years after installing The Boot, I received notification that Child Protective Services (CPS) had informed a father that there was a hearing to remove his children that afternoon. During the conversation the man stated he was going to pick up his kids from school and "no one was going to stop him;" the case worker implied that he had a weapon. Thankfully the Undersheriff hung out at the building for a few hours. The man did enter the office with his hands in pockets (it is important to note that he had not made a specific threat.) When the Undersheriff began speaking with him things went downhill fast and an altercation occurred in the main office; immediately behind the main office we had staff working with students merely feet away of what turned into a wrestling match. Thankfully the staff closed the door, dropped The Boot in place, and made an announcement over the PA to lock down. It worked flawlessly.

When I heard of The Smart Boot System I was immediately interested. The new features took a great product to the next level. Activating the system once deployed saves precious time and alerting law enforcement to where the incident originated will save time and lives. Directing students to safe locations that have not been locked down yet provides a safety measure for students who are not in a classroom at the time of an event.

In brief, I have installed The Boot and upgraded to The SmartBoot System because it makes my students as safe as possible.

Keith Smith, Ph.D.  
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