

School Safety & Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

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Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is an approach to safety by which the physical environment in and around schools is changed to both promote safety and reduce opportunities for crime.

[In this video](#), presenters discuss the benefits of CPTED, the six components that make it up, and key findings from school principals who implement CPTED strategies.

Learning Outcomes

- » Identify the six components of CPTED.
- » Summarize key findings from a survey of 10 school principals who implemented CPTED strategies.
- » Determine low/no-cost ways to implement CPTED in your context.

Key Takeaways

- ✓ The six components of CPTED are:
 1. Surveillance – natural, formal, and mechanical
 2. Territoriality
 3. Image management
 4. Access control
 5. Activity support, and
 6. Target hardening

Key findings from a survey of 10 school principals:

- ✓ Administrators recommend including as many partners and key community members in the process as possible.
- ✓ A school resource officer (SRO) is helpful to the CPTED process.
- ✓ Low/no cost recommendations are able to be quickly implemented (e.g., labeling entrances, clearing clutter in hallways).

Additional Resources

[Using Environmental Design to Prevent School Violence](#) - This CDC resource provides an overview of CPTED and a school assessment.

[The International Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Association](#) - This site provides links to training and certification in CPTED.

Questions for Discussion

- » What areas in and around your school building could be improved through small alterations?
- » What other safety programs can you combine CPTED efforts with?
- » Whose input will you gather to help understand where and how your building's physical environment can mitigate risk (e.g., SRO, students, facilities staff)?

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