**Advances in School Security Technology**

Presented by Lee Mandel, CEO

Mineralogic Solutions

National school security technology leader and expert Lee Mandel will provide an in-depth program explaining the advancements in school security technology that are now being developed and deployed in schools across the United States. School security has taken on heightened importance following tragedies in Newtown, Connecticut and more recently in Parkland, Florida. Mr. Mandel has met with families and school officials and has visited the schools in Parkland. He has seen how these tragedies impact individuals, families and communities. He will discuss how technology is advancing to allow for more rapid response to incidents and how artificial intelligence can be used to protect schools and help prevent active shooter or other crisis events. Advance video surveillance, facial recognition, behavioral analytics and other technologies are now being deployed in schools across the nation. Mr. Mandel is directly involved in the development of these technologies. He will share information and trends relating to advanced video technology, access control systems and one button automated lockdown systems. Some states are passing laws now that require one button lockdown systems which automates the response to critical incidents such as active shooters.

Mr. Mandel will explain his four-point approach to enhancing school security and safety. These four points are:

1) **Technology** – The use of advance technology to monitor and protect schools before, during and after crisis events is critical. Technology is important for communicating quickly with first responders and giving them access to maps, cameras and door locking systems. These response tools are part of one button lockdown systems that also connect immediately with 9-11 operators and first responders. First responders gain important situational awareness and this reduces response time saving lives.

2) **Hardening Schools** - Upgrading and hardening schools. Hardening schools makes them more difficult to penetrate. He will explain mantraps, automated remote door locking systems and advance coatings that make windows more resistant to forced entry and gunfire.

3) **Awareness** – Technology and communicating with staff, teachers, students, parents and members of the community is critical. With awareness students in trouble can receive the attention that they need. Technology is being used to help identify students in need and potentially other threats to schools.

4) **Training** – Training on the use of technology and how to respond to incidents of all kinds is critical. Training must be rigorous and ongoing for staff, faculty as well as students and parents. As new staff members are added and as technology changes, safety training and drills must be a part of normal everyday school operations.