

John McDonald

Executive Director of Security and Emergency Management for Jeffco Public Schools

John McDonald is the Executive Director of Security and Emergency Management for Jeffco Public Schools, and recognized internationally as the architect of the post Columbine High School tragedy security and emergency management plan. Jeffco schools is a district of 86,000 students and 14,000 employees at the foot of the Rockies in Colorado.

John has been recognized by the US Department of Education as a subject matter expert on active shooter preparedness and emergency plan development. During his time with Jeffco Schools, John has managed or responded to several tragedies and crisis events impacting schools including the 2010 Deer Creek Middle School shooting for which he was recognized as the Security Director of the Year for his leadership and actions during this crisis, the 2012 kidnapping and murder of Jessica Ridgeway, the 2013 Arapahoe High School shooting and a shooting at Sheridan High School in 2015. Following the Sandy Hook tragedy, John was invited to the White House to speak about developing the model active shooter preparedness, response and recovery program in K-12 schools.

John has earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and Criminology and taught criminal investigations and interview and interrogation as an adjunct instructor in Criminal Justice studies. John began his career in the military prior to working as a Police Officer in Colorado and then transitioned to the private sector as the Sr. Manager of US security and investigations with a Fortune 100 world-wide corporation.

In 2011, John founded ERCM Consultants, LLC, and provides threat management, emergency response and physical security assessment consultation services for educational institutions and law enforcement agencies. John is often requested by the media and is a nationally recognized presenter. In 2015, John was recognized by CBS News as a Community Game Changer for his work on the front lines, protecting kids.



Hear from John McDonald, along with survivors of school shootings and safety incidents, at the **National Summit on School Safety**, March 28-30, 2019 in Houston, Texas. This conference is presented by Safe and Sound Schools and Region 4 Education Service Center and will focus on comprehensive school safety. With deep-dive breakout sessions, hands-on workshops, leadership round tables, inspirational keynotes, and dedicated networking, attendees will add to their school safety toolbox to better meet their community's school safety needs. Register here: <https://www.safeandsoundschools.org/national-summit-on-school-safety/>.