



I have been the superintendent for the Quitman School District since 2014. One of the things the district had need of was a tornado safe shelter. Communities and school districts to the East and West of Quitman had been devastated by tornadoes in recent years and as time went by, school safety became a very high priority due to so many school shootings.

A stand-alone tornado shelter has its negatives. As an administrator, when do you make the call to dismiss your staff and students to the shelter? Also, the staff and students must leave the classroom and relocate, usually that means going outside to another building. This poses a danger as debris could be blowing from the wind and there more than likely would be rain, thunder and lightning.

National Safety Shelters® has partnered with **Staying Home Corporation** in Harrisonville, MO to offer shelters for the classroom that would protect our staff and students from a shooter on campus and withstand an EF-5 tornado.

The Hide Away® Shelter had also been tested with various weapons and the bullets barely left a mark and certainly did not penetrate the steel. Upon more research I found that **Hide Away®** uses ¼" military grade American steel that the US Army uses on their armored vehicles.

It was obvious to me, after spending months of time researching, **National Safety Shelters®** had the best shelter for protecting my staff and students.

I'm proud to say that the Quitman School District will be the first district in Arkansas to have safety shelters in every classroom!



Dennis Truxler
Superintendent - Quitman School District

