



EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER • REGION 20

SEMPER PARATUS – *ALWAYS READY*

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- School Shooting Incidents in US (2000 – 2017)
- Characteristics of school shooters?
- Steps schools taking to keep everyone safe?
- Statewide safety initiatives
- Talking to children
- Children's emotions
- Suggested discussion points
- Scenario discussion

The image features a dark blue background with white, stylized circuit board traces in the corners. These traces consist of straight lines and small circles, resembling electronic components or data paths. The main text is centered in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

BY MAY 25TH, 21 WEEKS INTO 2018, THERE WERE ALREADY 23 SCHOOL SHOOTINGS WHERE SOMEONE WAS HURT OR KILLED.

THAT AVERAGES OUT TO MORE THAN 1 SHOOTING A WEEK.

Saeed Ahmed and Christina Walker, CNN

2 SATAN-WORSHIPING GIRLS PLANNED TO KILL MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSMATES, DRINK VICTIMS' BLOOD

- <https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/region-polk/bartow/pd-2-satan-worshiping-girls-armed-with-knives-plotted-to-kill-15-students-at-middle-school->

ARREST ANNOUNCED IN SOCIAL MEDIA THREAT TOWARD BEAUMONT HIGH SCHOOL

- <https://www.pe.com/2018/10/24/social-media-threat-for-bhs-puts-banning-beaumont-high-schools-on-alert/>









TOMORROWS NEWS SANDY HOOK PROMISE FOUNDATION

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvRQ1StsYGw> 1:25





Most mass shootings are not impulsive acts; most were planned for 6 months to a year. In almost every case, warning signs were given off that were not understood, were not acted upon quickly or was not shared with someone who could help.

In 4 out of 5 school shootings, at least one other person had knowledge of the attacker's plan but failed to report it.

2000-2017 SCHOOL SHOOTING INCIDENTS

- FBI Handout

FBI – WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT SHOOTERS?

- Shooters are studying past events, trying to out do each other.
- There is no accurate “profile” of individuals who engage in targeted school violence.
- 99 percent of the attacks committed by males.
- Almost all of the attackers (95 percent) were current students at the school.
- In 73 percent of the incidents, the attackers had a grievance against at least one of their targets.
- Most attackers did not threaten their targets directly prior to the attack.

SHOOTERS - CONTINUED

- Most attackers engaged in some behavior, prior to the incident, that caused concern or indicated a need for help.
- Most attackers were known to have difficulty coping with a significant loss or personal failure. Many had considered or attempted suicide.
- Many attackers felt bullied, persecuted, or injured by others prior to the attack.
- Most attackers had access to and had used weapons prior to the attack.
- Despite prompt law enforcement responses, most shooting incidents were stopped by means other than law enforcement intervention.

CEDAR CREST AVERTED SCHOOL VIOLENCE

https://s3.amazonaws.com/pbs-ingest/newshour/20150422_srl.mp4

4:32

WHAT STEPS ARE SCHOOLS TAKING?

- Workshops/Training for staff
 - Threat Assessment Management
 - CRASE
 - Stop-the-Bleed
 - Mental Health First Aid
 - Standard Response Protocol/Standard Reunification Method (I Love You Guys Foundation)
- Hiring MH Professionals
- Increasing District LE/Additional SROs/Inviting LE presence
- Guardians and School Marshals
- Hardening facilities
- Implementing student reporting procedures (iwatch TX app)
- Control visitor access & requiring IDs
- Conducting safety drills

OTHER SAFETY INITIATIVES

- Law enforcement agencies encouraged to increase patrols.
- DPS is visiting campuses to increase presence in rural areas.
- Law enforcement agencies, including Fire (EMS) are training together and sharing resources.
- Social media monitoring.
- Legislators are making efforts to learn about the issues in preparation of the upcoming legislative session.
- Promoting - See something, say something!

TALKING TO CHILDREN

- Reassure their safety. Emphasize that schools are safe. Validate their feelings. Let children talk about their feelings, and assist them in expressing these feelings appropriately.
- Make time to talk. Let their questions be your guide as to how much information to provide. Be patient; children and youth do not always talk about their feelings readily.
- Some children prefer writing, playing music, or doing an art project as an outlet. Young children may need concrete activities (such as drawing, looking at picture books, or imaginative play) to help them identify and express their feelings.

TALKING TO CHILDREN - CONTINUED

Keep your explanations developmentally appropriate.

- Elementary school children need brief, simple information with reassurances that their school and homes are safe and that adults are there to protect them. Give simple examples of school safety during the school day.
- Middle school children will ask more questions about safety and what is being done. Discuss facts about efforts of school to keep everyone safe.
- High school students will have strong opinions about causes of violence. They will share concrete suggestions how to make school safer and prevent tragedies. Emphasize their role in maintaining safe schools (e.g. not providing building access to strangers, reporting strangers on campus, reporting threats made by students, etc.), communicating any personal safety concerns, and accessing support for emotional needs.

OBSERVE CHILDREN'S EMOTIONAL STATE

- Observe children's emotional state. Some children may not express their concerns verbally. Look for changes in behavior, appetite, and sleep patterns can also indicate a child's level of anxiety or discomfort. In most children, these symptoms will ease with reassurance and time.
- However, some children may be at risk for more intense reactions. Children who have had a past traumatic experience or personal loss, suffer from depression or other mental illness, or with special needs may be at greater risk for severe reactions than others. Speak to your child's counselor, doctor, and/or seek out a mental health professional if necessary.

SCHOOL SAFETY SCENARIO #1

Your child comes home from school and tells you that during lunch she overheard another student talking to her friends and say that she hated school, and that she wanted come up with a plan to shoot the school up. Your daughter says she knows the student but not very well. She also knows one of the students in the group she was talking too.

Your daughter tells you she is scared to go to school and doesn't want to say anything because she does not want to get in trouble with anyone.

What would you do?

SCHOOL SAFETY SCENARIO #2

Your daughter comes home from school and tells you one of her classmates who she has known since fourth grade has changed a lot over the last couple of months. Although they have never been friends, they would occasionally talk while on the school bus. Now she is dressing different and other students are beginning to pick on her. She never says anything to the mean students but you can tell she gets upset. She spends a lot of time by herself and is always drawing. Your daughter tells you she happened to see one of the drawings the other day and it looked very demonic and dark. Your daughter has tried speaking to her but she seems disinterested and uncaring about everything.

Should your daughter mind your own business and let her be? Should she tell someone, who would you tell and what would you say? What if she finds out you daughter told someone and she gets upset, is it worth it?

SCHOOL SAFETY SCENARIO #3

Your son receives a package in the mail that is unexpected. When he gets home from school you show him the package and ask if he is expecting anything. He's quiet at first and then tells you a friend he has been playing video games online with gave him some credits so he could buy an add on for his video game.

Are you ok with this, is this harmless and nothing to worry about?

You ask your son how much did the add on cost? He tells you \$50. Does this change anything about your level of concern?

CONTACT INFORMATION

Larry Rodriguez, ESC-20

School Safety Consultant

Office: 210-370-5616

Cell: 210-563-6608

Email: Larry.rodriguez@esc20.net