

Oregon Task Force on School Safety

as established by House Bill 4087 during
the 77th Oregon Legislative Assembly

Report to the Oregon State Legislature
Fall 2015



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History and Mission

In 2014, the Oregon State Legislature enacted House Bill 4087, establishing the **Oregon Task Force on School Safety**, bringing together representatives from police, fire, school administration, teachers, school boards and service districts, along with the Governor's education and public safety policy advisors, and legislators. With these key stakeholders at the table the Task Force began its work on accomplishing the three objectives set forth in HB 4087.

History and Mission

- o Develop a request for proposal to create a database of floorplans for all schools within the state, accessible to authorized users via the Internet.
- o Examine models of existing education and training programs for law-enforcement officials, other first responders and school employees in the areas of school safety and incident response.
- o Examine models for existing protocols for school safety and incident response and consider whether standardized statewide school safety and incident response protocols would be appropriate.

Problems to be Addressed



This is what prevention looks like.

Problems to be Addressed

- o We know the majority of Oregon students will complete their education without being touched by peer violence.
- o However, school related violence has become an all too common issue faced by our education community.

Problems to be Addressed

- o Some students feel unsafe at school. The Oregon Health Authority reports that:
 - *In a statewide survey of Oregon students, over 7% of 8th grade students reported not going to school at least one day in the previous 30 due to safety concerns.*

Oregon Health Authority. (2015). *Oregon Healthy Teens Survey*. Portland, Oregon.

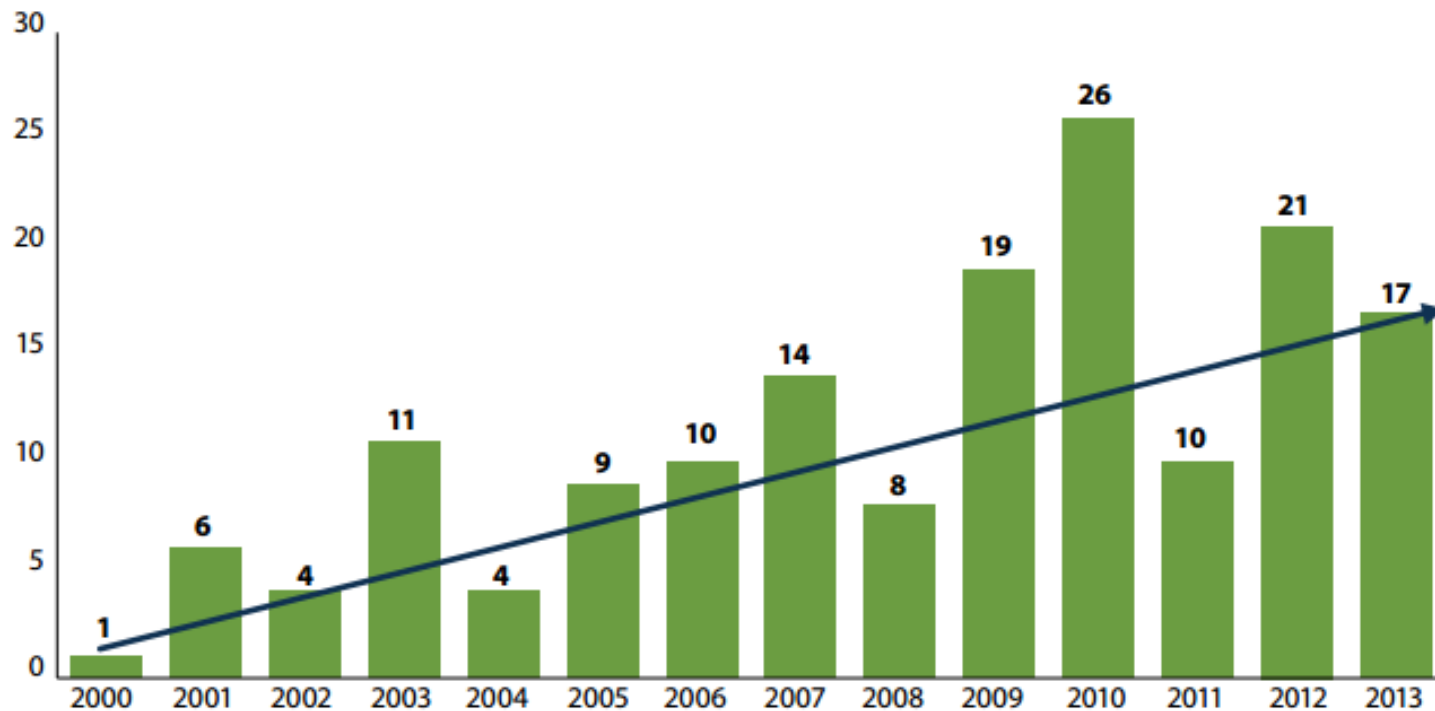
Problems to be Addressed

- o An increase in active shooting incidents across the nation. The FBI reported 160 active shooter incidents between 2000 and 2013.
 - An average of 11.4 incidents occurred annually.
 - An average of 6.4 incidents occurred in the first 7 years studied.
 - An average of 16.4 incidents occurred in the last 7 years.

Federal Bureau of Investigations. (2013). *A Study of Active Shooter Incidents in the United States Between 2000 and 2013*. U.S. Department of Justice.

Problems to be Addressed

A Study of 160 Active Shooter Incidents in the United States Between 2000 - 2013:
Incidents Annually



Problems to be Addressed

- o An increase in the number of school-related shootings across the nation. The FBI reports 39 active shooter incidents in education environments between 2000 and 2013 (117 individuals killed and 120 wounded).

Federal Bureau of Investigations. (2013). *A Study of Active Shooter Incidents in the United States Between 2000 and 2013*. U.S. Department of Justice.

Problems to be Addressed

- The FBI also reports that school-based attacks are occurring with more frequency and account for some of the highest death tolls among all active shooter incidents during this time period.

Federal Bureau of Investigations. (2013). *A Study of Active Shooter Incidents in the United States Between 2000 and 2013*. U.S. Department of Justice.

Problems to be Addressed

- o Remember, these numbers do not include recent Oregon school-related shootings such as...
 - Umpqua Community College (2015)
 - Reynolds High School (2014)
 - Rosemary Anderson High School (2014)

Problems to be Addressed

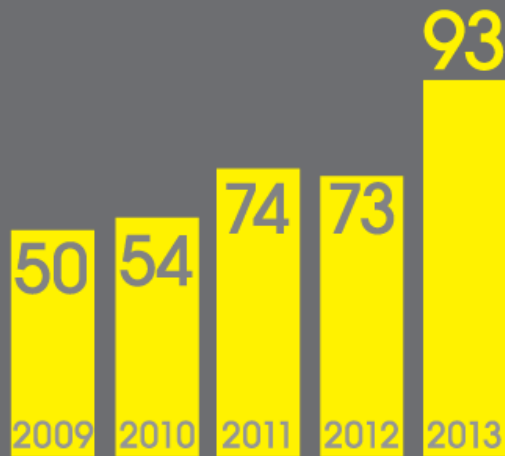
- o Additional statistics from Mass Shooting Tracker (a database of mass shootings in the US widely used by the media).
 - 353 mass shooting incidents in 2015
 - A mass shooting is defined as 4 or more killed or wounded in an incident
 - At the time of the UCC incident, Newsweek reported there were 45 school shootings in the US in 2015 (all educational settings)

- o Notice the difference in numbers between the FBI and other sources such as Mass Shooting Tracker. The FBI defines “active shooter incidents” differently.

Problems to be Addressed

- o Youth suicide in Oregon is on the rise. The Oregon Health Authority reports **344** youth suicides in Oregon between 2009 and 2013.
- o Suicide is the second leading cause of death for ages 10-24 in Oregon.
- o Suicide has been increasing among Oregon youths ages 10 to 17 since 2011.

Shen X, Millet L., (2013). *Violent Deaths in Oregon*. Oregon Health Authority, Portland, Oregon



Youth* Suicide TREND

*Ages 10-24

TOTAL: 344



Problems to be Addressed

o There are many additional problems to be addressed, such as...

- Bullying
- Cyberbullying
- Harassment
- Intimidation
- Gang Activity
- Assaults/Fighting
- Drugs/Alcohol
- Etc., etc., etc.



Recommendations from the
Oregon Task Force
on School Safety

Recommendations



Establishing Standardized
Statewide Terminology
for Safety Protocols

Standardized Terminology

- First responder and education terminology was not consistent
- Importance of “Plain Speak”. The standardized terminology is:

Lockdown: Quickly secure all school staff, students and visitors in rooms away from immediate danger.

Lockout: School’s exterior doors are locked. Used in a potentially dangerous situation outside of a school.

Shelter in Place: Take immediate shelter where you are and isolate your inside environment from the outside environment.

Evacuate: Remove from a place of danger to a safer place.

- Based on the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) Model
- Simplistic and easy to understand
- Current Status - completed

Standardized Terminology

- o Standardized terminology is incorporated into the safety planning resource guide “Do the Drill”. Distribution is occurring this week.
 - 3000 copies printed and distributed to:
 - ✓ School Superintendents
 - ✓ School Principals
 - ✓ School Resource Officers
 - ✓ Chiefs of Police
 - ✓ Fire Chiefs
 - ✓ Fire Marshals
 - ✓ Etc.
- o It is critical that we use the same basic terminology in emergency situations.

OREGON OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

DO THE DRILL!

A School Resource Guide for Safety Planning



Fire

Earthquake

Lockdown

Lockout

Shelter-in-Place

Recommendations



Establishing a Statewide
School Floorplan Database

School Floorplan Database

- o Fund and develop a statewide school floorplan database to store facility information for Oregon schools. The database will assist first responders in knowing the layout of a building before entering it during an emergency and improve communication between police, fire and school personnel.

School Floorplan Database

- Multi-hazard benefits of having a school floorplan database:
 - Guide responding public safety to the portions of a facility to be checked in an active threat/barricaded subject situation.
 - Large common areas can be quickly accessed by first responders
 - Crucial for building evacuation planning in the event that a portion of the building cannot be used.
 - First responders from outside the immediate area would have access to view floor plans enroute to a scene.
 - A database would provide current contact information for vital school personnel.
 - Key structural components can be easily located

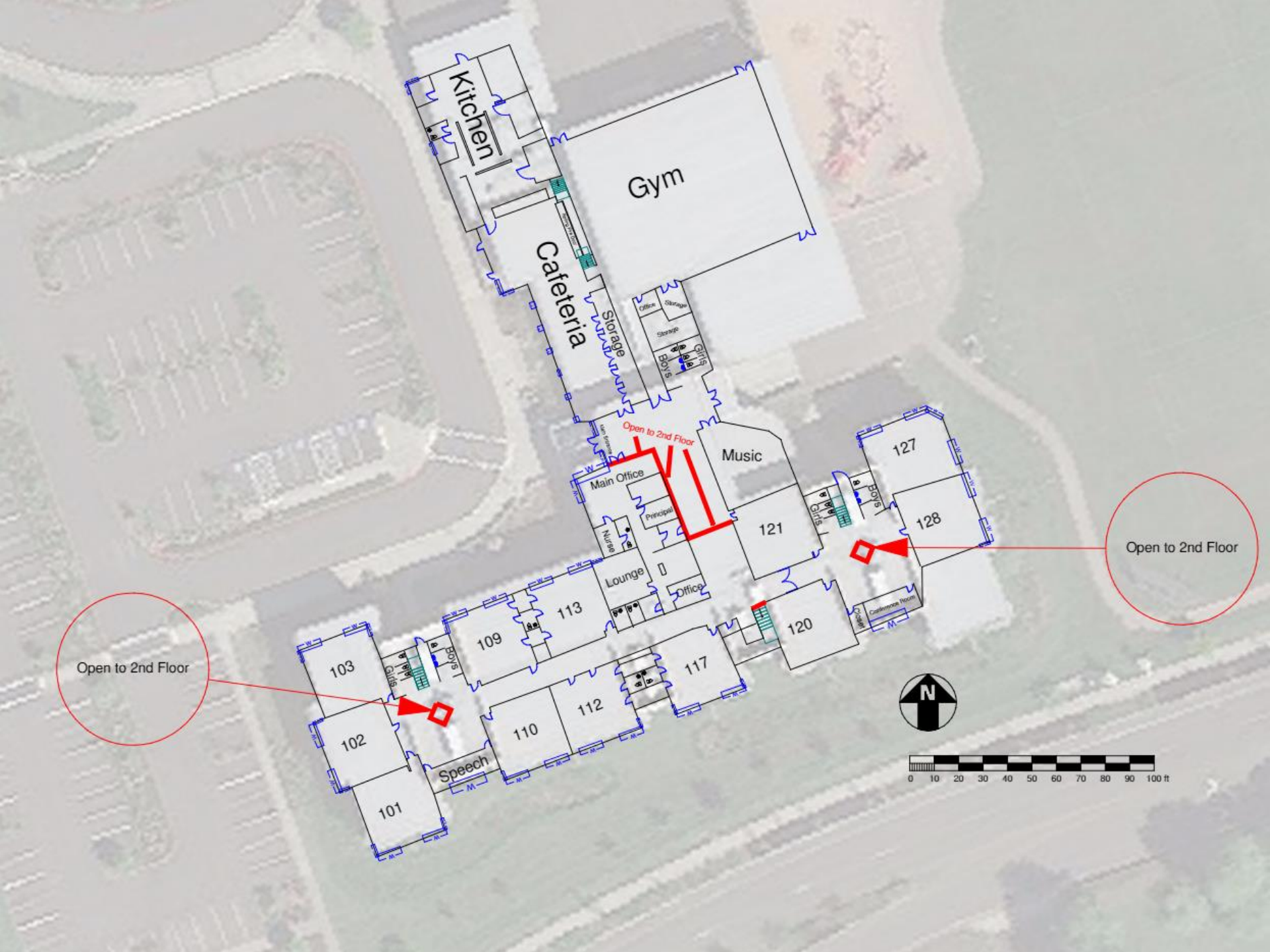
- Current Status- ongoing

School Floorplan Database

- o It would take years and millions of dollars for Oregon to build its own database system (not cost effective).
- o The Task Force is looking at a free system available from Homeland Security:
 - Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN)
 - Staff needed to operate the system
 - We need to mitigate additional work for school staff to upload information into the system.

School Floorplan Database

Examples of traditional school
mapping and
3D technology mapping



Kitchen

Gym

Cafeteria

Storage

Music

Main Office

Principal

Nurse

Lounge

Office

Speech

127

121

128

120

117

112

110

109

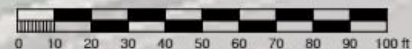
103

102

101

Open to 2nd Floor

Open to 2nd Floor



3D Mapping Video

Recommendations

- Establishing a Statewide
Tip Line

Statewide Tip Line

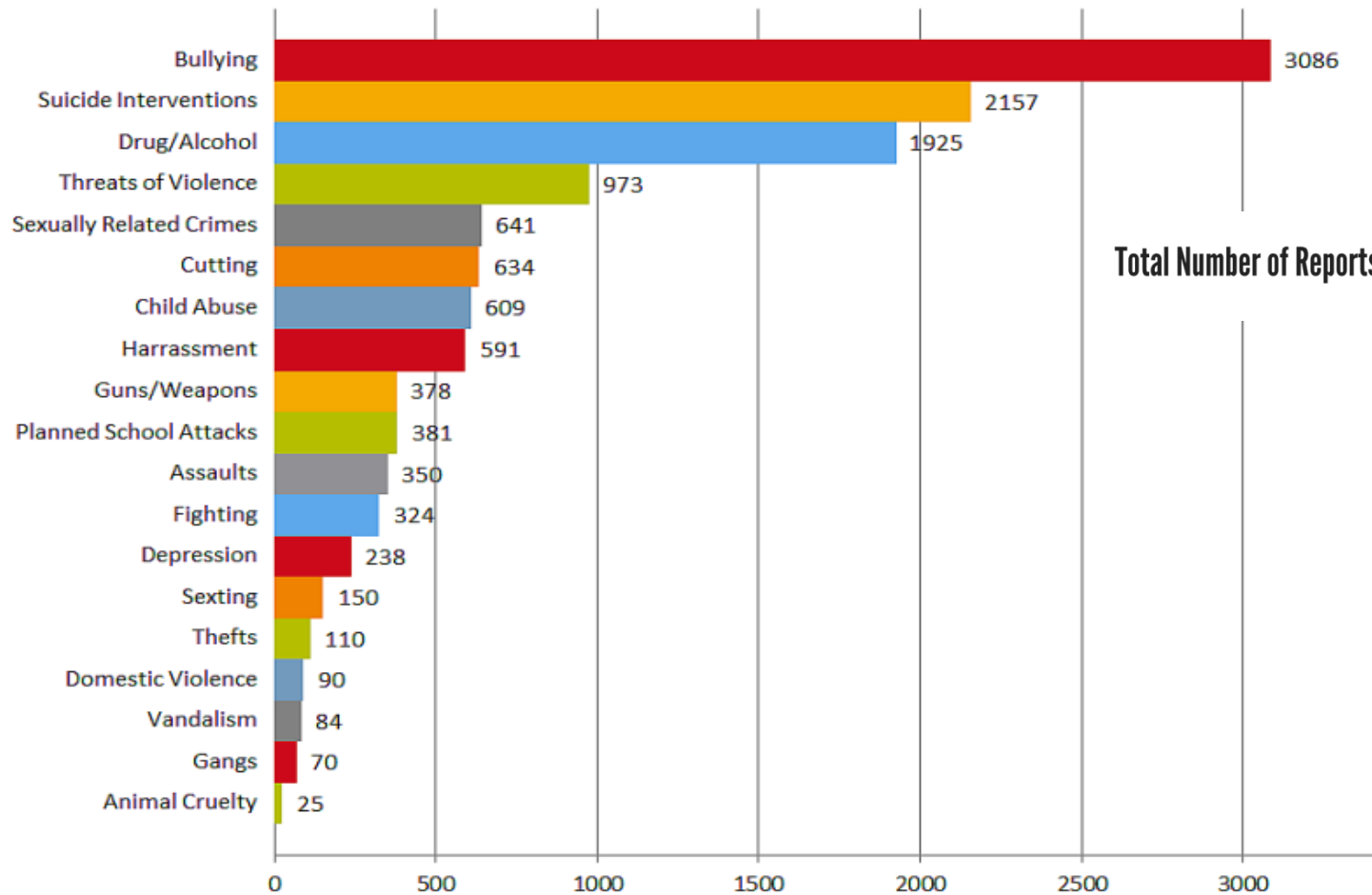
- o Establish and fund a statewide tip line with voice, text and web-based options, allowing students, families and others to report information about potential threats. The information will be evaluated and shared with school officials and law enforcement when threats to student safety are reported. The tip line would handle all types of tips, including bullying, violence, threats of violence and suicide, among other concerns.

Statewide Tip Line

- Colorado's Safe2Tell has proven effective.
 - Select interventions since 2004...
 - 973 threats of violence
 - 381 planned attacks at school
 - 378 reports of guns or weapons
 - Over 13,100 reports since 2004
 - 3100 tips last year alone

Source: Safe2Tell Summary Data Report, January 2015.

Total Number of Tips Receive Per Category Since 2004



Total Number of Reports: 13,146

Statewide Tip Line

o Implementing a statewide tip line can save lives...

- According to the US Secret Service, 81% of the time someone else knew that an individual was planning a violent event before it actually occurred.
- 93% of the time that someone was a peer.
- Colorado was successful in getting individuals to submit tips to their tip line...we are confident Oregon will be successful as well.

Statewide Tip Line

o Current Status:

- HB 4075 – requests appropriation to fund the tip line.
- The program will be administered by the Oregon State Police.
- Timeline- ASAP if approved by the legislature.

Recommendations

- Establishing a Statewide Threat Assessment System for Oregon Schools

Threat Assessment

- o Establish and fund a statewide threat assessment system to identify, evaluate and support students who present a potential threat to themselves or others.

Threat Assessment

- o Once a statewide tip line is implemented to alert us to issues of potential violence, can we prevent the violence from occurring? YES, in many cases!
- o We believe that implementing a comprehensive statewide threat assessment system is the best way to help prevent acts of violence from occurring.

Threat Assessment

- o Threat assessment is an evidence-based, multidisciplinary approach that requires a team to work together to identify, evaluate and support students who present a potential threat to themselves or others.

Threat Assessment

- o Threat assessment is a proven method of early intervention that can help prevent acts of violence in school environments.
- o Recommended by the FBI, US Secret Service and the US Department of Education.

Threat Assessment

- o The threat assessment model utilizes a two tiered approach for assessing risk...
 - Level 1 is a school-based assessment completed by a trained site team.
 - Level 2 is a community based assessment completed by a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary team.
- o A threat assessment team assists in intervention, management and supervision planning and ensures safety plans are implemented.
- o Current Status - ongoing

DRAFT Threat Assessment Video



STUDENT THREAT ASSESSMENT

**Ordinary school days don't make the news.
But that doesn't mean ordinary is easy.**

Oregon's students face countless challenges and pressures every day—at school, at home, at work and at play.

Most are able to cope with the stress. But others turn to self-destructive behavior—cutting, substance abuse and suicide.

Sometimes, they focus their frustration on external targets—hurting people and property around them. On rare but devastating occasions, they become violent at school.

The goal of threat assessment is to make every day an ordinary school day.

- John Van Dreal
Director, Safety and Risk Management Services
Salem Keizer Public Schools

A threat assessment system uses early interventions to keep students safe. Using an evidence-based, multidisciplinary approach, it is used to identify, evaluate and support students who present a potential threat to themselves or others.

At each level, the teams work with students, families and the community to provide wraparound supports designed to break negative patterns and steer youth in a positive direction.

How the threat assessment system works:

When a student or students are identified as a potential risk to themselves or others, they are assessed using a two-tier approach:

Level 1
A trained school-based team, including a school administrator, a counselor/mental health representative and a law enforcement officer, works together to understand the threat, the risk and resources the school has to address it.

Level 2
If the school team determines the situation is high risk, that it needs help with the investigation or it lacks necessary resources, it calls in a community-based multidisciplinary team of education, mental health and law enforcement professionals.

Next Steps

- Ask the Legislature to continue the Task Force:
 - It will take a collective commitment and ongoing funding to implement these important school safety strategies.

Discussion & Questions

The members of the Oregon Task Force on School Safety are interested in your thoughts/feedback.

- What areas of school safety do you believe the Task Force should focus on going forward?