A Background in the Dialogue on Ending School Shootings

A Libraries of Michigan, MCLS, Michigan State Police and Michigan Cooperative Directors Association presentation

Dr. Jonathan Doll, April 10, 2014
Ending School Shootings
(286 p., In Press, 2015, Michigan State University Press)

- Written in response to Arapahoe High School shooting (12/13/13)
- Aims to inspire national dialogue on school shooting prevention
- Finished in 32 days, was under contract in 41 days
Let's be honest for a second

- The truth about school shootings in America
- ... And let’s pause to reflect on a solution
Some good news for a change

- **A lifetime**  
  Eric Decker's experience and game-winning assists

- **24 minutes**  
  Antoinette Tuff's courageous response in Atlanta

- **80 seconds**  
  Custodian Frank Llerenas, school resource officers/deputy, James Englert, and Rod Mauler for quick response at Arapahoe High School

- **47 seconds**  
  Coach Frank Hall's heroism at Chardon High School, OH

- **A few seconds**  
  Teacher Ryan Heber convinced school shooter to disarm in Taft, CA
What was the last fatal school shooting?

2013
- 12-13 Claire Davis (Arapahoe High School)

2014
- 1-21 Andrew Boldt (Purdue University)
- 1-24 Brandon Robinson (South Carolina State University)
- 2-20 Steven L. Jones (Raytown School Success Academy)
- 3-30 Zikarious Flint* (Columbus State University)
Some quick facts, 1999-Present

- 1 fatal school shooting every 41 days**
- 76 fatal shootings from Columbine onward
- 209 dead, 272 injured† († inc. non-fatal events)
- 3 librarians died

- 36 of 50 states + DC affected since 1999 (~70%)

** The time period is calculated only from the 2010-2014 partial decade.

AL AZ AR CA CO CT (DC) DE FL GA IL IN KS KY LA ME MA MI MN MS MO NE NV NM OH OK OR PA SC SD TN TX VA VT WA WV WI
AK HI ID IA MD MT NH NJ NY NC ND RI UT WY
8 school shootings at libraries or with librarians; 3 librarians died, [1950-present]

1) **Dec 13, 2013**, Librarian/drama teacher safely escorted from school, but was target in Centennial, CO
2) **June 7, 2013**, Library shooting, 6 killed, 4 injured, CA
3) **Jan 22, 2013**, Shooting next to library, 4 injured, TX
4) **Sept 28, 2010**, Shooting involving library, TX
5) **Oct 13, 2008**, Librarian killed, TX
6) **Aug 26, 1996**, Librarian killed, TX
7) **June 12, 1972**, Library shooting, 7 killed, 2 injured, CA
8) **Sept 3, 1952**, Librarian killed, IA
Thesis Point: How about some solutions?

1) Prevention begins in class, in the locker room, in the hallways, in the office, on the field...

2) Prevention works best through **relationship**
Thesis Point: How about some solutions?

What is Needed

1) An effective school/district PBIS system
2) A school analysis of bullying/other internal risks
3) A school understanding of student threat types (Form 1)
4) If possible, an added resource officer focused on relationship; if not possible, then the building staff will perform this role...
5) Focusing on building strengths in students (Forms 2, 3, and 4)
Let’s Open this up for discussion

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