

From: CRCL Exec Sec
Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 15:46:38 +0000
To: Sterling, Brian; (b)(6)
Cc: CRCL Exec Sec; Amendolia, Deana; Venture, Veronica; Porto, Victoria (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event
Attachments: BM US Silvers- DHS K-12 Safety and Security Meeting.docx, Attachment B - USSS NTAC TPs and Resources.docx, Attachment A - NSBA Letter.pdf, Attachment C - CISA School Safety TPs and Resources.docx
Importance: High

Good afternoon, SIIP/CE: Sending this for visibility to follow up with the tasker which was also sent. This is due today at 2:00 pm.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

U.S Department of Homeland Security (DHS)//Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)//

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6).gov> **On Behalf Of** PLCY EXEC SEC
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 11:02 AM
To: OPE_Tasking (b)(6).gov>; OGC Exec Sec (b)(6) GOV>; CRCL Exec Sec (b)(6); PRIV-EXEC-SEC (b)(6) GOV>
Cc: (b)(6).gov>; Picarelli, John (b)(6).gov>; PLCY EXEC SEC (b)(6).gov>; (b)(6).gov>
Subject: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event
Importance: High

Good morning,

PLCY requests a flash review and clearance of the attached briefing materials for a K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event scheduled for tomorrow. Please provide any comments/clearance **by 2pm today**.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

Correspondence Analyst
 Executive Secretariat | PLCY
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Cell: (b)(6)

(b)(6) gov

Page 02

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Page 03

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Page 04

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event

Attachment B: USSS NTAC Talking Points

- Through its congressionally authorized mission, the Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) produces research, and provides training and consultation, to assist public safety professionals in preventing acts of targeted violence in their communities.
- NTAC has published guidance for K-12 schools on how to identify students in need of additional supports, and to provide early interventions to reduce the likelihood of a student causing harm to themselves or others. The guide, titled *Enhancing School Safety Using A Threat Assessment Model* provides actionable steps, scalable to each school community's resources and needs, to:
 - Establish a multidisciplinary threat assessment team
 - Define prohibited and concerning behaviors
 - Establish and provide training on a central reporting system
 - Determine the threshold for law enforcement intervention
 - Establish assessment procedures
 - Develop risk management options
 - Create and promote a safe school climate
 - Provide training for all stakeholders
- This approach is supported by NTAC's research examining school attacks perpetrated by current and former students, as well as school attack plots that were averted
- NTAC's guidance to schools highlights:
 - Targeted violence is preventable when communities identify warning signs and intervene
 - Schools should create a safe school climate built on a culture of safety, respect, trust, and emotional support
 - Schools should seek to intervene before behaviors escalate to student engaging in harmful behaviors that warrant legal consequences
 - Students are best positioned to identify and report concerning behaviors
 - Using exclusionary practices (e.g. suspension) does not eliminate the risk
 - Schools must create individualized management plans to address identified risks
- NTAC also publishes reports examining mass attacks that impact the public spaces where we work, learn, and otherwise live our daily lives (2017, 2018, 2019). These reports, and others, are available on the Secret Service website, and provide communities with information and considerations for identifying and intervening with those who pose a risk of engaging in targeted violence.



National School Boards Association
1680 Duke St. FL2, Alexandria, VA 22314-3493
Phone: (703) 838.6722 • Fax: (703) 683.7590
www.nsba.org

September 29, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Federal Assistance to Stop Threats and Acts of Violence Against Public Schoolchildren, Public School Board Members, and Other Public School District Officials and Educators

Dear Mr. President:

America's public schools and its education leaders are under an immediate threat. The National School Boards Association (NSBA) respectfully asks for federal law enforcement and other assistance to deal with the growing number of threats of violence and acts of intimidation occurring across the nation. Local school board members want to hear from their communities on important issues and that must be at the forefront of good school board governance and promotion of free speech. However, there also must be safeguards in place to protect public schools and dedicated education leaders as they do their jobs.

NSBA believes immediate assistance is required to protect our students, school board members, and educators who are susceptible to acts of violence affecting interstate commerce because of threats to their districts, families, and personal safety. As our school boards continue coronavirus recovery operations within their respective districts, they are also persevering against other challenges that could impede this progress in a number of communities. Coupled with attacks against school board members and educators for approving policies for masks to protect the health and safety of students and school employees, many public school officials are also facing physical threats because of propaganda purporting the false inclusion of critical race theory within classroom instruction and curricula.¹ This propaganda continues despite the fact that critical race theory is not taught in public schools and remains a complex law school and graduate school subject well beyond the scope of a K-12 class.

On behalf of our state associations and the more than 90,000 school board members who govern our country's 14,000 local public school districts educating more than 50 million schoolchildren, NSBA appreciates your leadership to end the proliferation of COVID-19 in our communities and our school districts. We also appreciate recent discussions with White House and U.S. Department of Education staff on many critical issues facing public schools, including threats school officials are receiving.

¹ The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), "Fact Sheet: Demonstrations over Critical Race Theory in the United States," July 14, 2021, https://acleddata.com/acleddatanew/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ACLED_Fact-Sheet_CRT-Demos_2021.pdf.

The leading advocate for public education

Preclusion of Further Threats and Violence Against Students and Educators
September 29, 2021
Page Two

In addition, we applaud your actions to restore resources to school districts that have not yet received their education stabilization funding through the Project SAFE (Supporting America's Families and Educators) grant program for coronavirus recovery efforts, including the use of face masks and other precautions to help prevent COVID-19 infections among students and educators. Now, we ask that the federal government investigate, intercept, and prevent the current threats and acts of violence against our public school officials through existing statutes, executive authority, interagency and intergovernmental task forces, and other extraordinary measures to ensure the safety of our children and educators, to protect interstate commerce, and to preserve public school infrastructure and campuses.

While local and state law enforcement agencies are working with public school officials in several communities to prevent further disruptions to educational services and school district operations, law enforcement officials in some jurisdictions need assistance – including help with monitoring the threat levels. As these threats and acts of violence have become more prevalent – during public school board meetings, via documented threats transmitted through the U.S. Postal Service, through social media and other online platforms, and around personal properties – NSBA respectfully asks that a joint collaboration among federal law enforcement agencies, state and local law enforcement, and with public school officials be undertaken to focus on these threats.² NSBA specifically solicits the expertise and resources of the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Secret Service, and its National Threat Assessment Center³ regarding the level of risk to public schoolchildren, educators, board members, and facilities/campuses. We also request the assistance of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service to intervene against threatening letters and cyberbullying attacks that have been transmitted to students, school board members, district administrators, and other educators.

As these acts of malice, violence, and threats against public school officials have increased, the classification of these heinous actions could be the equivalent to a form of domestic terrorism and hate crimes. As such, NSBA requests a joint expedited review by the U.S. Departments of Justice, Education, and Homeland Security, along with the appropriate training, coordination, investigations, and enforcement mechanisms from the FBI, including any technical assistance necessary from, and state and local coordination with, its National Security Branch and Counterterrorism Division, as well as any other federal agency with relevant jurisdictional authority and oversight. Additionally, NSBA requests that such review examine appropriate enforceable actions against these crimes and acts of violence under the Gun-Free School Zones Act, the PATRIOT Act in regards to domestic terrorism, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, the Violent Interference with Federally Protected Rights statute, the Conspiracy Against Rights statute, an Executive Order to enforce all applicable federal laws for the

² The Herald Editorial Board, *HeraldNet*, “Editorial: Mob’s actions at school board meeting unacceptable,” September 1, 2021, <https://www.heraldnet.com/opinion/editorial-mobs-actions-at-school-board-meeting-unacceptable/>.

³ U.S. Secret Service, National Threat Assessment Center, “Averting Targeted School Violence,” March 2021, <https://www.secretservice.gov/sites/default/files/reports/2021-03/USSS%20Averting%20Targeted%20School%20Violence.2021.03.pdf>.

Preclusion of Further Threats and Violence Against Students and Educators
 September 29, 2021
 Page Three

protection of students and public school district personnel, and any related measure. As the threats grow and news of extremist hate organizations showing up at school board meetings is being reported, this is a critical time for a proactive approach to deal with this difficult issue.

These threats or actual acts of violence against our school districts are impacting the delivery of educational services to students and families, as many districts receive federal funds and subsidies for services to millions of students with disabilities, health screenings and supplemental supports for disadvantaged students, child nutrition, broadband connectivity, educator development, school safety activities, career and technical education, and more. School board meetings have been disrupted in California⁴, Florida⁵, Georgia⁶, and other states⁷ because of local directives for mask coverings to protect students and educators from COVID-19.

An individual was arrested in Illinois for aggravated battery and disorderly conduct during a school board meeting.⁸ During two separate school board meetings in Michigan⁹, an individual yelled a Nazi salute in protest to masking requirements, and another individual prompted the board to call a recess because of opposition to critical race theory.

⁴ Elizabeth Marie Himchak, *Poway News Chieftain/ Rancho Bernardo News Journal*, "Protesters disrupt Poway Unified board meeting, cause its adjournment," September 9, 2021, <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/pomerado-news/news/schools/story/2021-09-09/protesters-disrupt-poway-unified-board-meeting-force-its-ag>.

⁵ Ryan McKinnon, *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*, "Sarasota school board may limit public input after some meetings get disorderly," September 20, 2021, <https://www.heraldtribune.com/story/news/education/2021/09/20/sarasota-school-board-may-limit-public-input-after-meetings-gone-wild/8417784002/>.

⁶ Alia Malik, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, "Anti-mask crowd disrupts Gwinnett school board meeting," May 21, 2021, <https://www.ajc.com/news/anti-mask-crowd-disrupts-gwinnett-school-board-meeting/IYO7R6GHJ5DTLEFCQHER7V3GBA/>

⁷ Julie Wootton-Greener, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, "School board meeting turns contentious over COVID-19 policies," August 12, 2021, <https://www.reviewjournal.com/local/education/school-board-meeting-turns-contentious-over-covid-19-policies-2418652/>.

WAVY.com, "Norfolk school officials, police monitoring threats made toward Norview schools," September 21, 2021, <https://www.wavy.com/news/local-news/norfolk/norfolk-school-officials-police-monitoring-threats-made-toward-norview-schools/>.

WBTV-Charlotte, "Gov. Roy Cooper addresses 'threats, bullying, intimidation' at school board meetings over mask requirements," September 21, 2021, <https://www.wbvtv.com/2021/09/21/gov-roy-cooper-address-fight-against-covid-19-north-carolina/>.

⁸ WGEM, "Mendon man arrested following disruption at Unity School board meeting," September 2, 2021, <https://wgem.com/2021/09/02/mendon-man-arrested-following-disruption-at-unity-school-board-meeting/>.

⁹ Steve Neavling, *Detroit Metro Times*, "Nazi salute, insults hurled at chaotic Birmingham schools meeting over mask mandate," August 19, 2021, <https://www.metrotimes.com/news-hits/archives/2021/08/19/nazi-salute-insults-hurled-at-ruckus-birmingham-schools-meeting-over-mask-mandate>.

Kalie Marantette, *WLNS.com*, "Grand Ledge school board goes into recess due to public 'disruption,'" June 16, 2021, <https://www.wlns.com/news/grand-ledge-school-board-goes-into-recess-due-to-public-disruption/>.

Preclusion of Further Threats and Violence Against Students and Educators
 September 29, 2021
 Page Four

In New Jersey¹⁰, Ohio¹¹, and other states¹², anti-mask proponents are inciting chaos during board meetings. In Virginia¹³, an individual was arrested, another man was ticketed for trespassing, and a third person was hurt during a school board meeting discussion distinguishing current curricula from critical race theory and regarding equity issues. In other states including Washington¹⁴, Texas¹⁵, Wisconsin¹⁶, Wyoming¹⁷, and Tennessee¹⁸, school boards have been confronted by angry mobs and forced to end meetings abruptly. A resident in Alabama, who proclaimed himself as “vaccine police,” has called school administrators while filming himself on Facebook Live.¹⁹

¹⁰ Joe Strupp, *Asbury Park Press*, “NJ mask mandate for students sparks school board disruption, suspends meeting,” August 26, 2021, <https://www.app.com/story/news/education/in-our-schools/2021/08/26/nj-school-mask-mandate-sparks-disruption-boe/5585283001/>.

¹¹ Maia Belay, *Fox8*, “Sheriff deputies called to tense Nordonia Hills school board meeting due to mask policy,” August 31, 2021, <https://fox8.com/news/sheriff-deputies-called-to-tense-nordonia-hills-school-board-meeting-due-to-mask-policy/>.

¹² Pete Bannon, *The Delaware County Daily Times*, “Mask protest brings police to Garnet Valley School Board meeting,” August 25, 2021, Updated August 26, 2021, <https://www.delcotimes.com/2021/08/25/mask-protest-brings-cops-to-garnet-valley-school-board-meeting/>.

Brenley Goertzen, *Salon.com*, “Anti-mask mob swarms school board meeting,” August 12, 2021, <https://www.salon.com/2021/08/12/anti-mask-mob-swarm-school-board-meeting/>.

¹³ Drew Wilder, Jackie Bensen, Andrea Swalec and NBC4 Washington Staff, *NBCWashington.com*, “‘The Meeting Has Degenerated’: 1 Arrest, 1 Injury at Loudoun Schools Meeting on Equity,” June 22, 2021, Updated June 23, 2021, <https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/northern-virginia/loudoun-school-board-transgender-student-policy-race-equity/2708185/>.

Adele Uphaus, *The Free Lance-Star*, “Unruly crowd causes Spotsylvania School Board meeting to adjourn after 13 minutes,” August 24, 2021, https://fredericksburg.com/news/local/unruly-crowd-causes-spotsylvania-school-board-meeting-to-adjourn-after-13-minutes/article_1d39b83c-fa43-5626-acca-4e2768a811de.html.

¹⁴ Emily Gilbert, *Whidbey News Times*, “Oak Harbor school board clears the room after audience shouts disrupt meeting,” August 13, 2021, <https://www.whidbeynewstimes.com/news/oak-harbor-school-board-clears-the-room-after-audience-shouts-disrupt-meeting/>.

¹⁵ Talia Richman and Brayden Garcia, *The Dallas Morning News*, “‘Critical race theory’ roils Fort Worth school board meeting as Texas braces for continued fight,” June 22, 2021, <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/education/2021/06/22/critical-race-theory-roils-fort-worth-school-board-meeting-as-texas-braces-for-continued-fight/>.

¹⁶ WBAY news staff and Jason Zimmerman, *WBAY.com*, “Oshkosh School Board meeting postponed after protesters disrupt it, argument breaks out,” August 25, 2021, Updated August 26, 2021, <https://www.wbay.com/2021/08/25/oshkosh-school-board-meeting-called-off-after-protesters-enter-board-members-walk-out/>.

¹⁷ Margaret Austin, *Wyoming Tribune Eagle* via *Wyoming News Exchange*, *Pinedale Roundup*, “School board meeting over COVID stopped after disruption,” August 4, 2021, <https://pinedaleroundup.com/article/school-board-meeting-over-covid-stopped-after-disruption>.

¹⁸ Jackie Delpilar, *WZTV Nashville*, “Anti-mask protesters show lack of empathy at recent Middle Tennessee school meetings,” September 12, 2021, <https://fox17.com/news/local/anti-mask-protesters-show-lack-of-empathy-at-recent-middle-tennessee-school-meetings>.

¹⁹ Aubrey Bailey, *WHNT.com*, “‘If you give one more shot, you yourself will be executed’ Alabama man tells Missouri pharmacists,” August 24, 2021, <https://whnt.com/news/alabama-news/if-you-give-one-more-shot-you-yourself-will-be-executed-alabama-man-tells-missouri-pharmacists/>.

Preclusion of Further Threats and Violence Against Students and Educators
 September 29, 2021
 Page Five

Other groups are posting watchlists against school boards and spreading misinformation that boards are adopting critical race theory curriculum and working to maintain online learning by haphazardly attributing it to COVID-19.²⁰

In Ohio, an individual mailed a letter to a school board member labeling the return address on the envelope from a local neighborhood association and then enclosing threatening hate mail from another entity.²¹ This correspondence states that, “We are coming after you and all the members on the ... BoE [Board of Education].” This hate mail continues by stating, “You are forcing them to wear mask—for no reason in this world other than control. And for that you will pay dearly.” Among other incendiaries, this same threat also calls the school board member a “filthy traitor,” implies loss of pension funds, and labels the school board as Marxist. Earlier this month, a student in Tennessee was mocked during a board meeting for advocating masks in schools after testifying that his grandmother, who was an educator, died because of COVID-19.²² These threats and acts of violence are affecting our nation’s democracy at the very foundational levels, causing school board members – many who are not paid – to resign immediately and/or discontinue their service after their respective terms.²³ Further, this increasing violence is a clear and present danger to civic participation, in which other citizens who have been contemplating service as either an elected or appointed school board member have reconsidered their decision.

NSBA believes public discussions and transparency by local school board members are important for the safe and effective operations of schools.²⁴ It is vital that public discourses be encouraged in a safe and open environment, in which varying viewpoints can be offered in a peaceful manner. Our children are watching the examples of the current debates and we must encourage a positive dialogue even with different opinions. However, with such acute threats and actions that are disruptive to our students’ well-being, to the safety of public school officials and personnel, and to interstate commerce, we urge the federal government’s intervention against individuals or hate groups who are targeting our schools and educators.

²⁰ Nick Surgery, *Documented*, “TPUSA launches project targeting school board members,” August 20, 2021, <https://substack.documented.net/p/tpusa-school-board-watchlist>

²¹ Lindsey Mills, WBNS, “‘Disturbing’: Worthington school board member receives threats for masks in schools,” September 21, 2021, <https://www.10tv.com/article/news/local/worthington-school-board-member-receives-threats-for-masks-in-schools/530-f3c04240-76b4-456b-aad9-8555397b5427>.

²² Kim Bellware, *The Washington Post*, “Student mocked at school board meeting after sharing that his grandmother died of covid-19,” September 10, 2021, https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/09/10/grady-knox-tennessee/?utm_campaign=wp_main&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAR29rIKzLY0tz4p0yB5VJDk_n_oIj5AJp6oiEvzJC1oRAYsMMMOPb8EvjY.

²³ Andy Humbles, *The Nashville Tennessean*, “Jon White resigns as Wilson County School Board member,” September 8, 2021, <https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/local/wilson/2021/09/08/jon-white-resigns-wilson-county-school-board-member/5750949001/>.

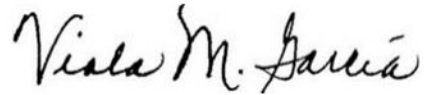
Terri Pederson, *The Daily Citizen*, “Beaver Dam school board member resigns citing safety concerns for family,” September 20, 2021, Updated September 21, 2021, https://www.wiscnews.com/bdc/news/local/education/beaver-dam-school-board-member-resigns-citing-safety-concerns-for-family/article_066fc86c-4356-5a00-9940-187e02eb7340.html.

²⁴ National School Boards Association and AASA, The School Superintendents Association, “NSBA, AASA Issue Joint Statement Calling for End to Threats and Violence Around Safe School Opening Decisions,” September 22, 2021, <https://www.nsba.org/News/2021/end-threats-violence-joint-statement>.

Preclusion of Further Threats and Violence Against Students and Educators
September 29, 2021
Page Six

NSBA is committed to working with you and your Administration as a partner to address this crisis affecting America's public schools, and greatly appreciates your prompt attention to our requests. We stand ready to work with you.

Respectfully,



Viola M. Garcia, EdD
President



Chip Slaven, Esq.
Interim Executive Director & CEO

K-12 EDUCATION AND SCHOOL SAFETY OUTREACH EVENT

October 15, 2021

CISA School Safety Efforts

CISA School Safety Task Force Overview

- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) established the School Safety Task Force to support the Federal government's efforts in strengthening and enhancing kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) schools' safety and security.
- The Task Force's activities include supporting and coordinating Federal efforts on school safety; designing and deploying school safety resources, guidance, and best practices that enhance schools' capabilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a range of threats; and conducting outreach, engagement, and educational campaigns to build awareness, solicit feedback, and promote vigilance within the academic community.

Federal School Safety Clearinghouse and SchoolSafety.gov

- The School Safety Task Force administers and manages the Federal School Safety Clearinghouse (FSSC), an active, interagency collaboration comprised of the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, and Justice.
 - The FSSC was established in response to the tragic attack on Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL in 2018.
 - The FSSC serves as an on-going, collaborative, and whole-of-government approach to school safety. Through coordinated efforts among the four participating agencies, the FSSC curates and disseminates guidance, resources, and best practices on a range of school safety topics and threats, including targeted violence.
- SchoolSafety.gov is the FSSC's public-facing vehicle and is a comprehensive repository of Federal and state school safety resources, programs, tools, and actionable recommendations.
 - The interagency website provides a one-stop access point to the information communities need to foster safe and resilient school systems. It comprises resources on topics including bullying and cyberbullying; mental health access and support; cybersecurity and online safety; emergency planning, exercises, and drills; infectious diseases and public health; school climate and positive character development among student bodies; targeted violence and physical security; and threat assessment and reporting.
 - In addition to resources and guidance, the site offers a variety of tools to support users in prioritizing school safety actions; finding applicable resources, funding opportunities, and events; connecting with school safety agencies in their state and region; and developing school safety plans.

Stakeholder Engagement, Outreach, and Communications

- The School Safety Task Force regularly communicates and engages with the K-12 academic community and other relevant school safety stakeholders through a variety of methods.
 - Active communication mechanisms include monthly newsletters, social media, monthly webinar series, direct stakeholder outreach, and conferences and event participation.
 - Educational and communications campaigns aim to raise awareness of school safety-related tools, resources, guides, as well as educate school communities on current and emerging threats and hazards.

- The Task Force also collaborates with Federal and state government agencies, non-profit organizations, school safety stakeholder groups, and academic associations such as the National School Boards Association, the National Association of School Resource Officers, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the National Association of Secondary School Principals to equip and motivate school communities in creating safer and more resilient school systems.

CISA Resources

- CISA develops and deploys capacity-building training and tools to support and enhance school safety and security. Resources are specifically designed to assist schools in strengthening their protection and mitigation capabilities against the range of targeted violence and crime-related threats they might face. Resources include:
 - *K-12 School Security: A Guide for Preventing and Protecting against Gun Violence (2nd Edition)*: The Guide provides preventive and protective measures to address the threat of gun violence in schools. It includes both general security best practices and considerations in narrative format as well as a Microsoft Excel-based security survey. These products outline action-oriented security practices and options for consideration based on the results of the individual school's responses to the survey.
 - *K-12 School Security Guide (3rd Edition)*: The 3rd edition of the Guide, slated for public release in late fall 2021, will provide schools with a comprehensive doctrine and systems-based methodology for vulnerability assessment, planning, and implementation of layered security elements. The guide and survey (a web-based assessment tool) will be accompanied by a series of trainings to support the use of both products.
 - *Protective Security Advisors (PSAs)*: CISA maintains a cadre of subject matter experts who facilitate local field activities in coordination with interagency partners. PSAs proactively engage with federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial government partners and members of the private sector to protect infrastructure by conducting security assessments and providing access to security resources, training, and information. They also connect community leaders, law enforcement officials, and other organizational representatives to collectively identify ways to reduce risk to infrastructure.

Potential Questions for Discussion Period with Participants

- What can I (my organization) do to help foster and enhance school safety and security efforts, both across my membership as well as within my local school community?
- What opportunities are there for our organizations as well as local schools and districts to further work with and/or partner with the Federal government on school safety-related efforts?

From: Sterling, Brian
Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 21:38:50 +0000
To: (b)(6) CRCL Exec Sec
Cc: POLCY EXEC SEC (b)(6) Picarelli, John
Subject: RE: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event
Attachments: Attachment B - USSS NTAC TPs and Resources_CRCL.docx, Attachment C - CISA School Safety TPs and Resources_CRCL.docx, BM US Silvers- DHS K-12 Safety and Security Meeting_CRCL (003).kcg.docx

Hi Lucian,

Please see the attached for edits and comments from CRCL, cleared by the CRCL Officer. Apologies again for the delay. Please feel free to call me with any questions.

Thanks,
Brian

Brian Sterling
DHS CRCL

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 5:20 PM
To: CRCL Exec Sec (b)(6); Sterling, Brian (b)(6)
Cc: POLCY EXEC SEC (b)(6) gov>; (b)(6) gov>; Picarelli, John (b)(6) gov>
Subject: RE: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event

CRCL Colleagues,

Can you please provide an update? We need to get this package up to A/AS Vinograd for approval and then to Under Secretary Silvers. Thanks.

Best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Pronouns: He/Him/His
Deputy Assistant Secretary (Acting) for Counterterrorism, Emerging Threats, and Threat Prevention
Office of Policy, Strategy, and Plans
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6) gov (Unclassified)

(b)(6) gov (SIPRNET, Secret)
(b)(6) gov (IC/JWICS, TS/SCI)

(b)(6) (mobile)
(b)(6) (office)
(b)(6) (secure)

From: CRCL Exec Sec (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 3:49 PM
To: Picarelli, John (b)(6) gov>; PLCY EXEC SEC (b)(6) gov>; (b)(6) gov>
Cc: (b)(6) gov>; CRCL Exec Sec (b)(6) Sterling, Brian (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event

Yes, we should be able to get clearance at that time.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

U.S Department of Homeland Security (DHS)//Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)//
(b)(6)

From: Picarelli, John (b)(6) gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 3:45 PM
To: PLCY EXEC SEC (b)(6) gov>; (b)(6) gov>
Cc: CRCL Exec Sec (b)(6) gov>; (b)(6) gov>
Subject: RE: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event

I am on a call with the CRCL leadership that should run until 1630. CRCL, can you get your comments cleared and back to us as soon as possible after that call ends?

John

From: (b)(6) gov> **On Behalf Of** PLCY EXEC SEC
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 3:30 PM
To: Picarelli, John (b)(6) gov>; (b)(6) gov>
Cc: CRCL Exec Sec (b)(6) gov>; PLCY EXEC SEC (b)(6) gov>; (b)(6) gov>
Subject: RE: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event

Hi John and (b)(6) –

Looping you back in for awareness of this request from CRCL.

From: CRCL Exec Sec (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 3:20 PM
To: PLCY EXEC SEC (b)(6) gov>
Subject: RE: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event

PLCY,
CRCL has comments with leadership and intend to submit as soon as we have clearance. Can a brief extension be granted? Sorry about the late ask.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

U.S Department of Homeland Security (DHS)//Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)//

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) gov> **On Behalf Of** PLCY EXEC SEC
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 11:02 AM
To: OPE_Tasking (b)(6) gov>; OGC Exec Sec (b)(6) GOV>; CRCL Exec Sec (b)(6) PRIV-EXEC-SEC (b)(6) GOV>
Cc: (b)(6) gov>; Picarelli, John (b)(6) gov>; PLCY EXEC SEC (b)(6) gov> (b)(6) gov>
Subject: Due 2pm Today [FLASH CLEARANCE] U/S Silvers - K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event
Importance: High

Good morning,

PLCY requests a flash review and clearance of the attached briefing materials for a K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event scheduled for tomorrow. Please provide any comments/clearance **by 2pm today**.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

Correspondence Analyst
Executive Secretariat | PLCY
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Cell: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

K-12 Education and School Safety Outreach Event Attachment B: USSS NTAC Talking Points

- Through its congressionally authorized mission, the Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) produces research, and provides training and consultation, to assist public safety professionals in preventing acts of targeted violence in their communities.
- NTAC has published guidance for K-12 schools on how to identify students in need of additional supports, and to provide early interventions to reduce the likelihood of a student causing harm to themselves or others. The guide, titled *Enhancing School Safety Using A Threat Assessment Model* provides actionable steps, scalable to each school community's resources and needs, to:
 - Establish a multidisciplinary threat assessment team
 - Define prohibited and concerning behaviors
 - Establish and provide training on a central reporting system
 - Determine the threshold for law enforcement intervention
 - Establish assessment procedures
 - Develop risk management options
 - Create and promote a safe school climate
 - Provide training for all stakeholders

(b)(5)

- This approach is supported by NTAC's research examining school attacks perpetrated by current and former students, as well as school attack plots that were averted
- NTAC's guidance to schools highlights:
 - Targeted violence is preventable when communities identify warning signs and intervene
 - Schools should create a safe school climate built on a culture of safety, respect, trust, and emotional support
 - Schools should seek to intervene before behaviors escalate to students engaging in harmful behaviors that warrant legal consequences
 - Students are best positioned to identify and report concerning behaviors
 - Using exclusionary practices (e.g. suspension) does not eliminate the risk
 - Schools must create individualized management plans to address identified risks
- NTAC also publishes reports examining mass attacks that impact the public spaces where we work, learn, and otherwise live our daily lives ([2017](#), [2018](#), [2019](#)). These reports, and others, are available on the Secret Service website, and provide communities with

information and considerations for identifying and intervening with those who pose a risk of engaging in targeted violence.

K-12 EDUCATION AND SCHOOL SAFETY OUTREACH EVENT

October 15, 2021

CISA School Safety Efforts

CISA School Safety Task Force Overview

- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) established the School Safety Task Force to support the Federal government's efforts ~~in~~ to strengthening and enhancing kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) schools' safety and security.
- The Task Force's activities include supporting and coordinating Federal efforts on school safety; designing and deploying school safety resources, guidance, and best practices that enhance schools' capabilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a range of threats; and conducting outreach, engagement, and educational campaigns to build awareness, solicit feedback, and promote vigilance within the academic community.

Federal School Safety Clearinghouse and SchoolSafety.gov

- The School Safety Task Force administers and manages the Federal School Safety Clearinghouse (FSSC), an active, interagency collaboration comprised of the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, and Justice.
 - The FSSC was established in response to the tragic attack on Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL in 2018.
 - The FSSC serves as an on-going, collaborative, and whole-of-government approach to school safety. Through coordinated efforts among the four participating agencies, the FSSC curates and disseminates guidance, resources, and best practices on a range of school safety topics and threats, including targeted violence.
- SchoolSafety.gov is the FSSC's public-facing vehicle and is a comprehensive repository of Federal and state school safety resources, programs, tools, and actionable recommendations.
 - The interagency website provides a one-stop access point to the information communities need to foster safe and resilient school systems. It comprises resources on topics including bullying and cyberbullying; mental health access and support; cybersecurity and online safety; emergency planning, exercises, and drills; infectious diseases and public health; school climate and positive character development among student bodies; targeted violence and physical security; and threat assessment and reporting.
 - In addition to resources and guidance, the site offers a variety of tools to support users in prioritizing school safety actions; finding applicable resources, funding opportunities, and events; connecting with school safety agencies in their state and region; and developing school safety plans.

Stakeholder Engagement, Outreach, and Communications

- The School Safety Task Force regularly communicates and engages with the K-12 academic community and other relevant school safety stakeholders through a variety of methods.
 - Active communication mechanisms include monthly newsletters, social media, monthly webinar series, direct stakeholder outreach, and conferences and event participation.
 - Educational and communications campaigns aim to raise awareness of school safety-related tools, resources, guides, as well as educate school communities on current and emerging threats and hazards.

- The Task Force also collaborates with Federal and state government agencies, non-profit organizations, school safety stakeholder groups, and academic associations such as the National School Boards Association, the National Association of School Resource Officers, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the National Association of Secondary School Principals to equip and motivate school communities in creating safer and more resilient school systems.

CISA Resources

- CISA develops and deploys capacity-building training and tools to support and enhance school safety and security. Resources are specifically designed to assist schools in strengthening their protection and mitigation capabilities against the range of targeted violence and crime-related threats they might face. Resources include:
 - *K-12 School Security: A Guide for Preventing and Protecting against Gun Violence (2nd Edition)*: The Guide provides preventive and protective measures to address the threat of gun violence in schools. It includes both general security best practices and considerations in narrative format as well as a Microsoft Excel-based security survey. These products outline action-oriented security practices and options for consideration based on the results of the individual school's responses to the survey.
 - *K-12 School Security Guide (3rd Edition)*: The 3rd edition of the Guide, slated for public release in late fall 2021, will provide schools with a comprehensive doctrine and systems-based methodology for vulnerability assessment, planning, and implementation of layered security elements. The guide and survey (a web-based assessment tool) will be accompanied by a series of trainings to support the use of both products.
 - *Protective Security Advisors (PSAs)*: CISA maintains a cadre of subject matter experts who facilitate local field activities in coordination with interagency partners. PSAs proactively engage with federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial government partners and members of the private sector to protect infrastructure by conducting security assessments and providing access to security resources, training, and information. They also connect community leaders, law enforcement officials, and other organizational representatives to collectively identify ways to reduce risk to infrastructure.

Potential Questions for Discussion Period with Participants

- What can I (my organization) do to help foster and enhance school safety and security efforts, both across my membership as well as within my local school community?
- What opportunities are there for our organizations as well as local schools and districts to further work with and/or partner with the Federal government on school safety-related efforts?

Page 21

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Page 22

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Page 23

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act