

Role of the School System Head of Security

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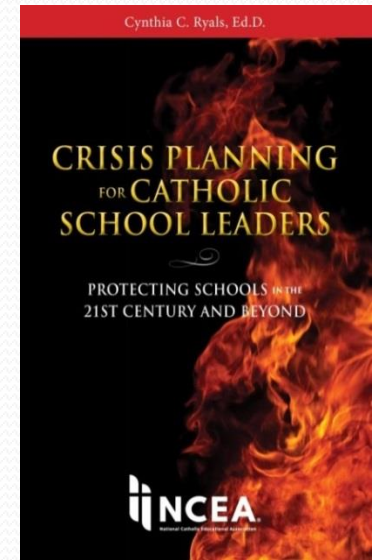
Objectives for Today

- **Lessons Learned: What worked and didn't work.**
- **Best Practices: How to lead, train, and conduct drills and table top exercises**
- **Roles: SRO's, law enforcement and first responders**
- **Questions?**



Dr. Cindy Ryals

- 34th year in education
- Teacher (20) & Administrator (14)
- Diocesan Safe Schools Committee
- Doctorate-December, 2014
- Dissertation: *School Leaders' Perceptions of Conducting Active Shooter Drills*
- NCEA Publication: Crisis Planning for Catholic School Leaders
- Wife, Mom, and Mickey Mouse Fan



Lt. David Malveaux

- ❑ 34 years of Law Enforcement Experience with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office
- ❑ 10 years as SRO assigned to John Ehret High School
- ❑ Supervisor of SRO program
- ❑ Commander of the SRO Program and School Offense Section
- ❑ 2019 to present: Director of School Safety for JPSchools



Lessons Learned

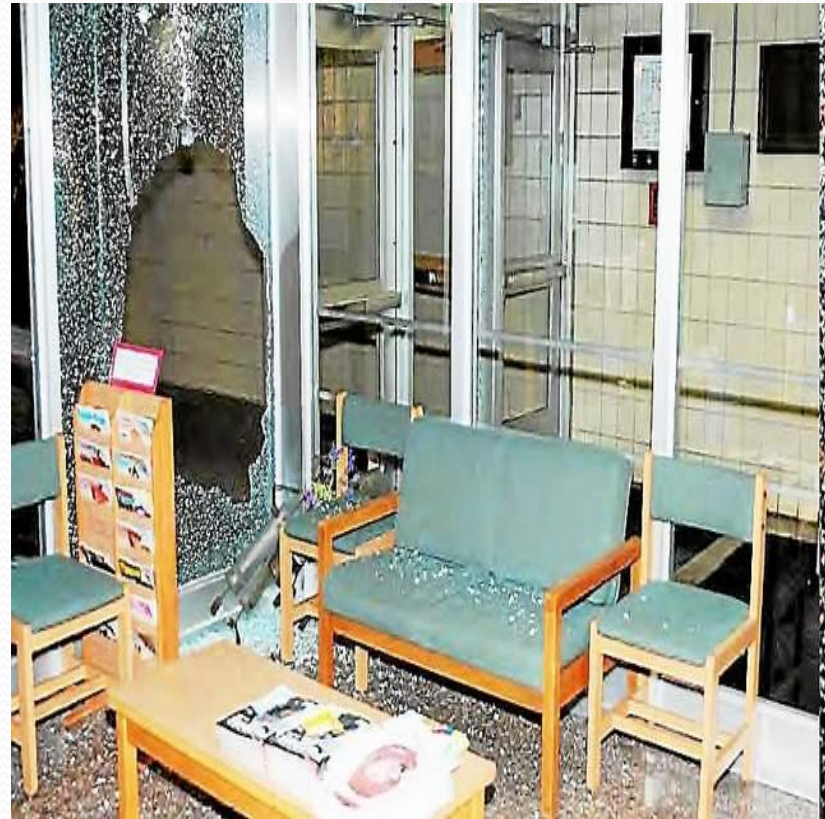
What we know about past crisis events can help us when creating, revising and training on a crisis plan.

It takes a village to create/revise a crisis plan.

- ✓ **Principals/School Leaders/Superintendents**
- ✓ **Teachers/Staff/Custodial/Other**
- ✓ **Parents**
- ✓ **Students**
- ✓ **Law Enforcement**
- ✓ **First Responders/EMS**
- ✓ **General Public**
- ✓ **Media**
- ✓ **Guidance Counselors (*aftermath)**

Sandy Hook Elementary School

- December 20, 2012
- Adam Lanza (20 years old)
- Multiple weapons
- Killed his mother 1st
- School Fatalities: 20 students
6 adults
- 2 Wounded
- Committed suicide at scene



Robb Elementary School (Uvalde)



- May 24, 2022
- Salvador Ramos (18)
- Automatic Rifle
- Fatalities: 19 Students, 2 Teachers
- 17 Wounded
- Shot Grandmother in head
- “Suicide by Cop”

LE response tactics had to change.

- No longer wait for SWAT to arrive.
- Train with multiple agencies.
- Stop the bleed-first aid training for everyone.
- First Responders-fire department and medics are also trained.
- Important to train school staff on what to expect when LE arrives.



Conducting drills worked!

**Active Shooter/
Intruder**



Severe Weather



Fire



**Table Top Drills
(What if...?)**

Reunification plans are necessary.

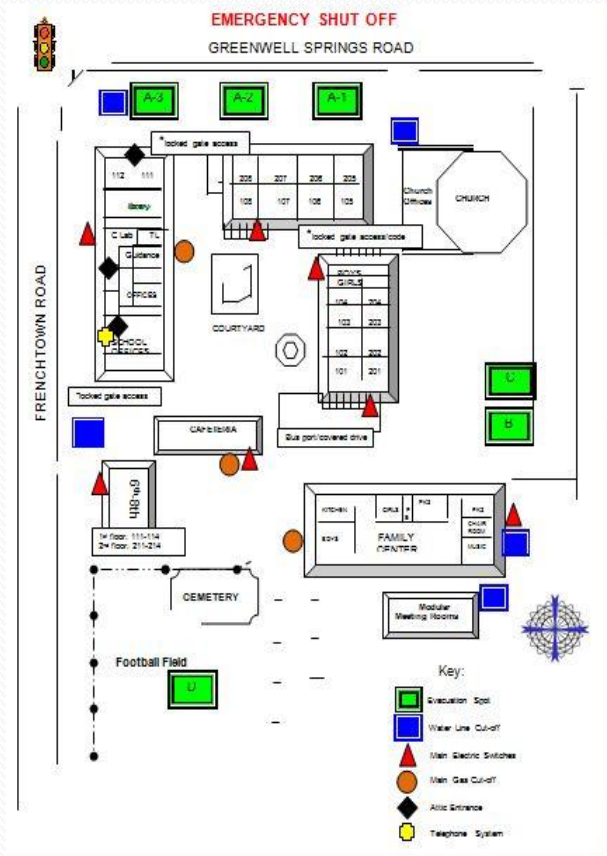


Surveillance cameras worked.

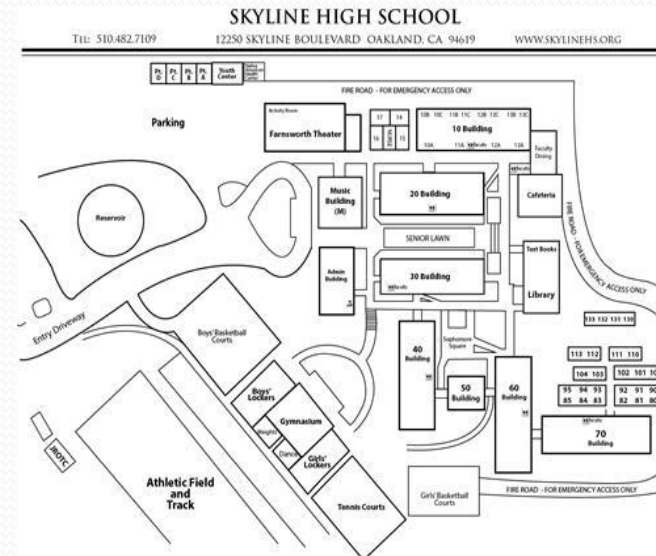


**Remote access to the cameras is key.*

School maps **MUST** be easily accessible.



- Include emergency shut off areas, surveillance camera locations, and emergency exits.
- Send them to local first responders in a PDF format for easy access.



***ARE YOUR BUILDINGS CLEARLY LABELED?**

All threats need to be taken seriously AND investigated.



Instagram

Locked doors save lives!

- **Everyone needs keys!**
- **Should remain locked all day.**
- **Barricades???**
- **Buzzers (access restricted)**



Codes: “Plain Talk” is the best method to communicate a crisis.

****Think about the people receiving the message!**

- Substitutes
- Students
- Visitors
- New Teachers/Staff
- Contractors
- Parents
- Cafeteria Staff



Emergency Bags (Go Bags) were valuable tools during a lockdown.

Sample items for bags:

- water bottles and cups
- Crackers or small snacks
- Flashlight
- Garbage bag
- Band aids
- Story book (younger)
- Emergency #'s
- Other?



The media is persistent.

- Prepare a media statement ahead of time (have sample wording ready to go).
- Contact your district leaders!
- Decide who will address the media presence/contact person.
- Train your faculty/staff NOT to speak to the media.
- Social Media- transparency and the facts only!



Role of School Resource Officer

- Enforce the law.
- Take action when laws are violated.
- Coordinate activities and programs with the principal and staff.
- Facilitates law-related lessons to students.
- Available for parent/teacher conferences.
- Familiar with community agencies to assist families.
- Resource for referrals to school officials.
- Liaison with sheriff's dept. for community affairs.
- School based contact for students on probation.
- **Takes action against intruders who appear at school and school functions.**
- Assist other police officers regarding the school.
- Can request additional police assistance if necessary.

Crisis response teams are essential.

***able to respond quickly, not easily flustered**

- ✓ **Administrator**
- ✓ **School counselor**
- ✓ **School nurse/CPR/first aide trained**
- ✓ **Teachers (various grade levels)**
- ✓ **Maintenance/custodial**
- ✓ **School resource officer**



Crisis Plan Training

**Best Methods for Training Faculty/Staff
and Students**

Faculty Inservice/Meetings

- Read the plan together.
- Grade levels by group/ discuss protocols.
- Conduct Table Top exercises
- **Debrief!**




Table Top Exercises


Example of a Faculty/Staff Training Exercise

1. Divide participants into small groups of various job descriptions (i.e., teachers, office staff, custodial, etc.)
2. Place a scenario card face down on the table.
3. Set a timer for 1 minute.
4. Have one participant flip the card and read it to the group.
5. Brainstorm/discuss what you think your first response should be to this scenario.


***If possible, have a LE or FR present.**



A student in your class tells you that she's heard a rumor that another student in your class may have a weapon (rumored to be a gun or knife) in his school bag. He was heard bragging about it at his locker. He brought it to scare a student who has been bothering him.



You are teaching your class and suddenly the secretary comes over the school intercom and says, “Lockdown, lockdown, this is not a drill!” You have just let two students go to the bathroom down the hall.



The secretary receives a call that a robbery has just occurred at a bank near the school. The suspect is armed and dangerous and was last seen running towards the location of the school. Students are in transition and also on the playground at recess.

FAQ's on Conducting Drills

- How often?
- What time of day?
- What to tell the students?
- Should you give prior notice?
- Do we involve LE/FR?
- Do I tell parents (before/during/after)?
- How do you debrief?
- Recess and transitions-how to train?
- Practice accounting for students/staff.



Involving LE/FR (not just drills)

- Invite them to do presentations/career days.
- Invite them to informally walk through your campus with you.
- Invite them to have coffee/lunch during the week.
- Ask them to participate in crisis team meetings.
- Empower teachers with a self defense class.





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