

# **KEEPING OUR SCHOOLS** SAFE

ACTIVE SHOOTER PREVENTION - "SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS" ARE ESSENTIAL FOR PREVENTING VIOLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS!

www.protectingourstudents.org

### WHO WE ARE?

Protecting Our Students (POS) is a coalition of concerned citizens: parents, teachers, students, communities, and security consultant experts. Joined together to problem solve, share best practices, and take specific and measurable actions, we exist to create a unified, safe environment for our school children. We collaborate with local school districts across the nation by speaking directly with Superintendents, District Managers, Principals, and School Safety Coordinators.



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### **YOUR SCHOOL SOLUTION**

We have developed an all-inclusive, in-depth, and comprehensive school gun safety mobile App, POSSafetyNet<sup>™</sup>. Designed to save student lives; conceived specifically to evaluate K-12 schools across the nation in determining strengths, deficiencies, and weaknesses relative to school shootings, gun safety, and active-shooter prevention. Your school software App will assess your safety, security, accessibility and emergency preparedness of the entire school buildings and grounds. Schools are now assessing their entire building interiors and campus exteriors - using our site assess mobile App. We provide your school with a tablet with our mobile App installed – for ease of use and enhanced useability to perform the school site analysis.

It's time for our administrators to engage in the approaches that have been shown to be effective in keeping guns out of schools. Our School-based and data-driven measures help end gun violence in schools. This includes supporting and implementing robust gun safety audits and school-based safety systems that can work to intervene in problems before shootings happen. Schools must be provided with the tools they need to intervene and prevent school-based gun violence.

## **ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENT STATISTICS**

Firearms have become the leading cause of death for children and adolescents (Center for Disease Control, 2020). More than 70 percent of teenagers are struggling with mental health, and one in four have considered suicide. Coupling the pressures of social distancing and mental health challenges with more firearms in homes than ever before, gun violence has escalated in communities nationwide.

For the period 2017-2021, active shooter incident data reveals an upward and concerning trend: the number of active shooter incidents identified in 2021 represents a 52.2% increase from 2020 and a 96.8% increase from 2017. 2021 witnessed the highest number of active shooter incidents from 2000-2021. "Gun Safety Awareness" ! Understanding gun usage and safety can help reduce gun violence at schools. FBI report of incidents from 2008 to 20017 found that 76 percent of guns used in school violence were taken from the home or a relative (National Threat Assessment Center, 2019).

### **OUR PROBLEM**

In a survey POS conducted, students when asked how safe they feel at various locations around their school, just over half of them report feeling safe from harm at school. While 66% of students feel safe in their classes, only 59% say they feel safe at school in general.

Today, students feel stress, anxiety and have general concerns about their safety as well as our parents, teachers and communities. Mass shootings in the U.S. affect so many of us and with the knowledge that our school-age children are potentially at risk, our goal is to eliminate this danger.

Gun safety in our K-12 schools has been disorganized, decentralized, inefficient, and consists of an assortment of methods and approaches, ranging from adequate to ineffective. There is no accepted universal process for auditing a school facility for security vulnerability and no universal certification program.



# HOW WE OPERATE

POS builds partnerships with educational institutions, public and private consultants, including Certified School Safety Professionals, School Security & Crises Preparedness Specialist, Law Enforcement, and Government Agencies to apply our proprietary comprehensive evaluation process. Once each school is assessed, our network of certified security professionals implement a standardized emergency operating plan (EOP) Report outlining school deficiencies.

Protecting Our Students<sup>5M</sup> (POS) is a non-profit and nonpartisan organization established to eliminate gun shooting fatalities and injuries in our K-12 school system. We do so by providing a standardized and universal safety and security framework for schools across the nation who are struggling with the cost of meeting today's safety and security needs. In addition, we are taking meaningful action that addresses what we know about gun violence on K- 12 campuses and prevents it from occurring in the first place.



Strong Team

Established: 2020

Innovative App

### **OUR CURRENT SITUATION**

More than 311,000 students have experienced gun violence at school since Columbine and the frequency of these incidents has been steadily increasing over the past decade. Each decade since, there have been 1300+ school shooting incidents throughout our United States. Despite the continuous assault on students, gun safety remains disorganized, decentralized, and inefficient. Methods and approaches can vary state by state and some may have considerable preventive resources, others do not, or lack a standardized and uniform framework.

There are more than 76-million school-age students currently enrolled in America's schools and despite children being our greatest resource, policies to protect our students have been disorganized and inefficient due to the absence of uniform nationwide procedures - that could ensure comprehensive gun safety measures are taken in every school across our country.

In 2019, nine percent of high schoolers reported not attending school because they felt unsafe (Centers for Disease Control, 2019). The Center for Homeland Defense and Security's K-12 School Shooting Database tracked more than 230 gun-related incidents on school grounds from 2018 to 2019. Over the same period, the School Safety Indicator tracked a rate of 33 victimizations at or in route to/from school per 1,000 students (Wang et al., 2020).



### HELP US PROTECT YOUR SCHOOL

POS is a nonprofit; non-partisan organization explicitly designed to standardize and unify K-12 gun safety policies with our proprietary POSSafetyNet<sup>sm</sup> program designed specifically for our students. We accomplish this with local donations and support – for the nearly 100,000 K-12 schools that are struggling with the cost of upgrading and improving today's gun safety and security needs.

### **OUR RESULT**

Schools across the nation become unified under a universal gun safety best practice EOP. And, because of our extensive network, these superior safety measures can be applied to any school – no matter their funding or size.

### **NO SCHOOL IS ALIKE**

We classify and categorize best-practice policies to construct a gun reference point average and generate a Report based on your identified demographics.

- 1.Secondary/Primary Elementary, Middle, and High
- 2. Geography Urban, Suburban, and Rural
- 3. Enrollment & Administration
- 4. Building(s) Total Sqft.
- 5. Campus Acreage

**DO TO PREVENT THE NEXT MASS** 

-75% of school shooters are current or former students of the breached schools. -Protecting Our Students is here to bridge those gaps.

### **"THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS WE CAN** SHOOTING IS THREAT ASSESSMENT."

### WHY WE NEED YOUR SCHOOL TO IMPLEMENT POSSAFETYNET<sup>SM</sup>!



Gun violence prevention 'assessments' are essential for thwarting active shooter deterrence in schools. School leaders and administrators must cultivate school environments that foster openness and safety for all students.

We provide meaningful strategies to keep our nation's schools safe. Supportive schools foster an affirming academic climate while also maintaining secure physical settings. This includes supporting and implementing robust gun safety audits and school-based safety systems that can work to intervene in problems before shootings happen. Your schools must be provided with the tools you need to intervene and prevent school-based gun violence and active shooters.



### HELP US BUILD GUN SAFETY "AWARENESS" AT YOUR SCHOOL AND GET YOUR SCHOOL SPONSORED!

To help us standardize and unify School Gun Safety in every School, we ask for a donation of \$2,500 -\$2,900 from each school. Support and each school's donation, up to \$2,900, generally comes by way of parent/school committee, PTA, alumni, community members, local business owners, affluent student body, a school bake sale, etc. Each donation includes:

HARDWARE SOFTWARE

[10.2-INCH RETINA DISPLAY IPAD TABLET] [POSSAFETYNET<sup>™</sup> APP + UPDATES]

ONBOARDING & 24/7 USER & TECH SUPPORT
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL REPORT AND SCORING
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
PROCESSING, SHIPPING, AND HANDLING

### REACH OUT TO US NOW TO DISCUSS HOW YOUR SCHOOL CAN HELP US PROTECT OUR STUDENTS NOW!

Contact Us Robert Jordan, Co-founder Cell: (310) 721-0910 / Office: (888) 500-3393 Robert@protectingourstudents.org www.protectingourstudents.org Twitter @protectstudents

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