



May 2016

## WSSCA Newsletter

The "news you can use" periodical for Wisconsin's school safety and security professionals

### Another Month Another School Shooting

As of this writing we are waiting for more information on the shooting at Antigo High School. I know that our thoughts are with WSSCA members Tim Prunty and Misty Servi as they help the Antigo Community to work through, grieve, and find some understanding of this horrible event.

In May 2002, the U.S. Secret Service and the U.S. Department of Education published the results of the *School Safety Initiative*. This study of 37 incidents of targeted school violence between December 1974 and May 2000 examined the thinking, planning and pre-attack behaviors of attackers. The ten key findings may be surprising:

- Incidents of targeted school violence are rarely sudden, impulsive acts
- Prior to most incidents, **other people knew** of the attacker's intent, idea or plan to attack
- Most attackers did not directly threaten their targets prior to the attack

### This issue:

- Another School Shooting
- Get the Lead Out
- WSSCA Twitter Chat

belongs and that there will always be a caring adult who knows more about them than the classes they are taking. Thoughts? • **There is NO accurate or useful profile of students who engage in targeted school violence.**

- Most attackers **engaged in some behavior prior to the incident** that caused concern or indicated a need for help
- Many had considered or attempted suicide
- Many attackers felt bullied, persecuted or injured by others prior to the attack
- Most attackers had access to and had used weapons prior to the attack
- In many cases, other students were involved in some capacity
- **Despite prompt law enforcement responses, most acts of targeted violence were stopped by means other than law enforcement intervention**

What can we take from these points? While there's no point in trying to fix blame, or to beat ourselves up following these events, I do believe we can be more intentional about our prevention efforts when those efforts are focused on developing positive relationships in our schools, and ensuring that no student, I emphasize, no student experiences isolation and rejection without having caring adults provide support and intervention.

The guy on my radio right now is saying that there have always been bullied kids, and another person is calling it a, "fad." The arguments about arming school staff will start up again, and the easy access to firearms will be addressed by many.

Heaven knows if there was a simple solution to these tragedies, we'd readily sign on, but no such magic wand exists. I do believe our best hope does lie in being intentional about ensuring every kid in school knows that he or she

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*Ed*

## **“Get the Lead Out”**

### **Data Shows Water at 100 Schools Holds Double Federal Lead Limit**

**Increased testing has opened the public’s eyes to the scope of the problem**

*Note: I have been very fortunate to have lived in areas where I didn’t have to worry about the quality of my drinking water – or so I thought. The news from Flint, Michigan was shocking, and now we are finding that it is not as isolated as we may have hoped. I am reprinting the following from the April 16, 2016 online edition of Campus Safety magazine. Ed*

As more water systems get tested for lead, researchers have discovered hundreds of schools with lead levels above the federal limit.

The Environmental Protection Agency’s analysis of water at hundreds of schools around the country found 278 institutions violated federal lead restrictions at some point over the past three years, [according to CBS News](#). Roughly 100 of those violations featured lead levels more than double the federal safety standard.

The lead water crisis in Flint, Michigan has driven the agency to inspect the water systems at schools and daycare centers that aren’t normally checked under federal guidelines. Typically, a school’s water system is only inspected for lead if it is independent from other sources, which means roughly nine out of every ten schools’ water systems are rarely checked.

The vast majority of violations were the result of old buildings, drinking fountains and water fixtures that were made with lead.

In most cases, replacing the lead pipes used in the water systems is too costly to fit in budgets, forcing schools to provide bottled water for their students.

As the scope of the lead problem becomes clearer, lawmakers have argued for more extensive testing and increased funding to replace older pipes.

The lead violations were most common in states with buildings that are older on average, such as Pennsylvania, Maine, New Jersey, and other states along the east coast.

By CS Staff – April 16, 2016

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## **Communication and Real-time Professional Development**

Since we had a strong dialogue on twitter at the conference we would like to continue the conversation with a monthly twitter chat.

The potential for learning up-to-date, useful information, and for getting tried and true answers to common problems using Twitter is huge. WSSCA Board Member John Stangler is a strong proponent and expert user of Twitter for these purposes, and thanks to his generosity of time and expertise, we will have a great opportunity to get onboard with this excellent means of communicating.

Follow **#WSSCAchat** on the 2nd Wednesday of May (11) & June (8) at 1 pm to discuss relevant safety topics.

On Wednesday, May 11th at 1 pm we will have our 1st **#WSSCAchat**. May's topic will be on end of school year safety and safety drills while June's will be on summer safety (questions on contractors, summer school, shutdowns, end of school year, and summer project safety). John will post the questions Q1-Q6 prior to the chat while any answer/tweet from you will simply need the corresponding A# and the hashtag **#WSSCAchat**. If you can make it on great, if you can't no big deal but we would like to get the **#WSSCAchat** up and started.

If you are a novice, or raw beginner, Al Behnke shared a quick Youtube video a teacher in the Howard-Suamico District posted that explains how to get started:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I0TbhruNekY&feature=youtu.be>

## Quotes of the Month

“Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example.” –*Mark Twain in Pudd’n Head Wilson’s Calendar, 1894*

“Liberty without learning is always in peril and learning without liberty is always in vain.” – *John F. Kennedy, March 18, 1963*

## Borrowed Humor in Honor of Mothers Day (Remember your Mom on May 8<sup>th</sup>!)

**Al:** Why is a computer so smart?

**Mom:** It listens to its motherboard.

A mother mouse and a baby mouse are walking along when suddenly a cat attacks them. The mother mouse shouts “BARK!” and the cat runs away. “See?” the mother mouse says to her baby. “Now do you see why it’s important to learn a foreign language?”

School Safety Certification  
Course Schedule  
2016-2017

MODULES	COURSE TITLES	DATES (S)	LOCATION
3 & 8	Environmental Health/Safety Compliance School Threats and Vulnerability	Oct 26, 2016	Madison Crown Plaza
4&9	Health and Safety Compliance Part C Post Incident Recovery and Planning	March 6-7, 2017	Wis Dells Kalahari Resort
RE-Cert Refresher	Recertification and Refresher Electives To Be Determined	March 6-7, 2017	Wis Dells Kalahari Resort
5 & 10	Sound Risk Management Practices Emergency Response Practicum	April 2017	To Be Determined
1 & 6	Health and Safety Compliance Part A General Aspects of Crisis Management	Oct 2017	To Be Determined

**TWITTER CHAT**

**FOLLOW  
#WSSCAchat  
SCHEDULE**

**1:00 PM MAY 11, 2016**

**1:00 PM JUNE 8, 2016**

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