

Dear Members of the School Safety Working Group,

Due to work obligations I could not attend the Public Hearing on School Safety on Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> but I wanted to present the following thoughts to the School Safety Working Group:

I believe there should be consideration for requiring schools to have at least one armed employee either from within the current personnel registry or someone hired for that purpose. There are many school teachers and administrators that have military and/or law enforcement experience that would probably welcome the opportunity to have that security responsibility. It would not be difficult to ask for volunteers, with perhaps an additional pay scale, to be the responsible person for that position and have them go through additional training for that position. It is my belief that if the principal or other personnel in the Sandy Hook School administration had access to a weapon to defend the school, Adam Lanza would never have gotten further than the main office. In fact, from what I have read and heard discussed by psychologists, Adam Lanza probably would never have even attempted his assault on the Sandy Hook School if he thought there would be an armed defense.

The current procedure in our schools for dealing with an "Active Shooter" scenario is to go into lock-down. That entails locking the doors and grouping the students in the back of the classroom. That seems like a seriously deficient protective measure as can be seen from the results of the Sandy Hook School tragedy where it was implemented.

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