7 Steps to Gun Violence Prevention in our Schools

Comprehensive Education and Awareness
Implement a comprehensive armed assailant prevention and response plan and training, that raises awareness around the “8 Behavioral Threat Assessment Warning Behaviors.” This is to include pathway behavior, fixation behavior, identification behavior, nevei aggression behavior, energy burst behavior, leakage behavior, last resort behavior, and direct threat communicated behavior.

Early Intervention and Mental Health
Establish a robust system for identifying and addressing mental health concerns among students. Foster a safe and supportive environment where students feel comfortable seeking help. Collaborate with mental health professionals to provide counseling services and interventions as needed.

Strengthened Security Measures
Enhance security measures to ensure a safe learning environment. This includes implementing controlled access points, installing surveillance cameras, and employing trained security personnel. Conduct regular drills and simulations to prepare students and staff for potential emergencies. Develop protocols for responding to threats and ensure clear communication channels between school staff and law enforcement.

Anonymous Reporting Systems
Establish a confidential reporting system that allows students, parents, and staff to report any concerns or potential threats related to gun violence. This can be done through a dedicated hotline, an online reporting platform, or even anonymous suggestion boxes. Ensure that all reports are taken seriously and promptly investigated.

Promote Responsible Firearm Storage
Promote responsible firearm storage and access among households with students. Educate parents and guardians about the importance of securing firearms in a locked safe or cabinet, separate from ammunition. Encourage responsible gun ownership practices and provide resources for safe storage options.

Community Engagement and Support
Engage the broader community in gun violence prevention efforts. Collaborate with local law enforcement agencies, community organizations, and advocacy groups to create a united front against gun violence. Host community forums, workshops, and awareness campaigns to foster dialogue and promote collective action.

Ongoing Evaluation and Adaptation
Regularly evaluate the effectiveness of the prevention plan and make necessary adjustments to address emerging challenges and trends. Seek feedback from students, parents, staff, and community members to ensure the plan remains relevant and responsive to the needs of the school community. Continuously update policies and procedures based on the best practices and lessons learned from other schools and communities.