

Welcome!
Statewide Safety Council
June 25, 2026, Meeting

Executive Order

On December 16, 2025, Governor Walz issued Executive Order 2025-13 establishing the Governor's Statewide Safety Council. This initiative responds to a series of tragic events in Minnesota in recent years and reflects a commitment to convene leaders from state government, academic institutions, and non-profit organizations to develop actionable recommendations that will inform policy and strengthen the existing legal framework to enhance public safety statewide.

Preliminary report due: April 6, 2026

Final report due: January 6, 2027

Council objectives



The Safety Council's objectives are to:

- a. Develop an immediate **action plan** to prevent mass violence, targeted attacks, and domestic terrorism;
- b. **Recommend strategies** to combat radicalization, domestic terrorism, politically motivated violence, and extremist ideologies;
- c. Address **the intersection** of mental health and gun violence;
- d. **Promote and support** Threat Assessment and Threat Management Teams across Minnesota;
- e. **Coordinate with federal, state, and local partners** to align efforts and share best practices;
- f. Make **policy and funding recommendations** to the Governor;
- g. Meet monthly or at the call of the chair;
- h. Submit a preliminary report to the Governor **within 90 days**; and
- i. Submit a final report to the Governor **within 365 days**

Operating Agreements

- **Speak your own truth.** Share your perspective without generalizing or speaking for others.
- **Assume best intent.** Give each other the benefit of the doubt and ask for clarification when you aren't sure of intent. Offer "do-over" opportunities if a comment lands differently than intended and take responsibility for your impact.
- **Center trauma experience.** Acknowledge the impact of those experiences on how you or others might engage in your conversations.
- **Build connections.** Actively work to build relationships with members you don't know well.
- **Share the air.** Balance listening and speaking. Make space for others to contribute. Allow people to finish their thought.
- **When here, focus here.** Avoid multitasking and minimize distractions to stay fully engaged during meetings. If you must step out for an unexpected demand for your attention, do so quickly and flag the facilitators if you want us to follow up with you after the meeting to get caught up.
- **Be responsible.** Take ownership of meeting preparation, accessing necessary information, completing special assignments, and staying connected with your constituents.
- **Safe conversations for meetings.** Voting Council members should not engage in discussions about pending decisions with other members outside official meetings. Engaging in these conversations outside of meetings can lead to Open Meeting Law violations.
- **Honor the critical and urgent nature of this work for which we are all responsible.** Attend or send your alternate. Lean in on the between meeting tasks asked of you.

Message to observing public



Refrain from *any* behavior that disrupts the orderly conduct of the Council's work.



Public comment periods will not be part of these meeting procedures. If you wish to engage members in conversations before or after meetings or during meeting breaks, first ask if they have the time. Their conversations with other members must always take precedence.



If you have any logistical concerns such as access to meeting materials or ability to hear, connect with the meeting planners/facilitators (Kris, Stacy, or Julie) during a break.

Meeting topic cadence

March:	Mental health, illness, and suicide
April:	Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM)
May:	Social media, radicalization, and child protection online
June:	School violence
July:	Political and religious extremism and violence
August:	Victim, survivors, trauma, and aftercare
Sept:	Firearms

Oct – Dec: plan development and alignment

Today's agenda and objectives

Rational objective:

- Further explore *school safety* to better inform members as they start to develop recommendations that could improve safety.

Experiential objective:

- Members feel confident they can weigh in on draft recommendations related to school safety and suggest enhancements unique to their agency/organization.

Agenda

- Welcome
- Tap in question
- Status report on BTAM and social media recommendations
- Provide background for school violence presentation
- **Prevention presentation / brief discussion**
- **Intervention presentation / brief discussion**
- **Response and recovery presentation / brief discussion**
- Group discussion on two questions
- Tap out question
- Adjourn @ 11:00

Two-hour meeting – no break!

A simple act of free-form sharing to help draw your focus to this work and away from other demands on your time and attention. As a full group, members “tap in” by sharing their answer to this question:

Briefly, what has stayed with you the most from the political violence in Minnesota on June 14, 2025? How has it shaped your sense of purpose or connection to this work?





Preventing School Shootings

Dr. James Densley

The Violence Prevention Project Research Center



A Collaboration with
Practitioners and the Community



VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
PROJECT
RESEARCH CENTER
HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

Many **recommendations** so far (a) overlap and (b) reference schools

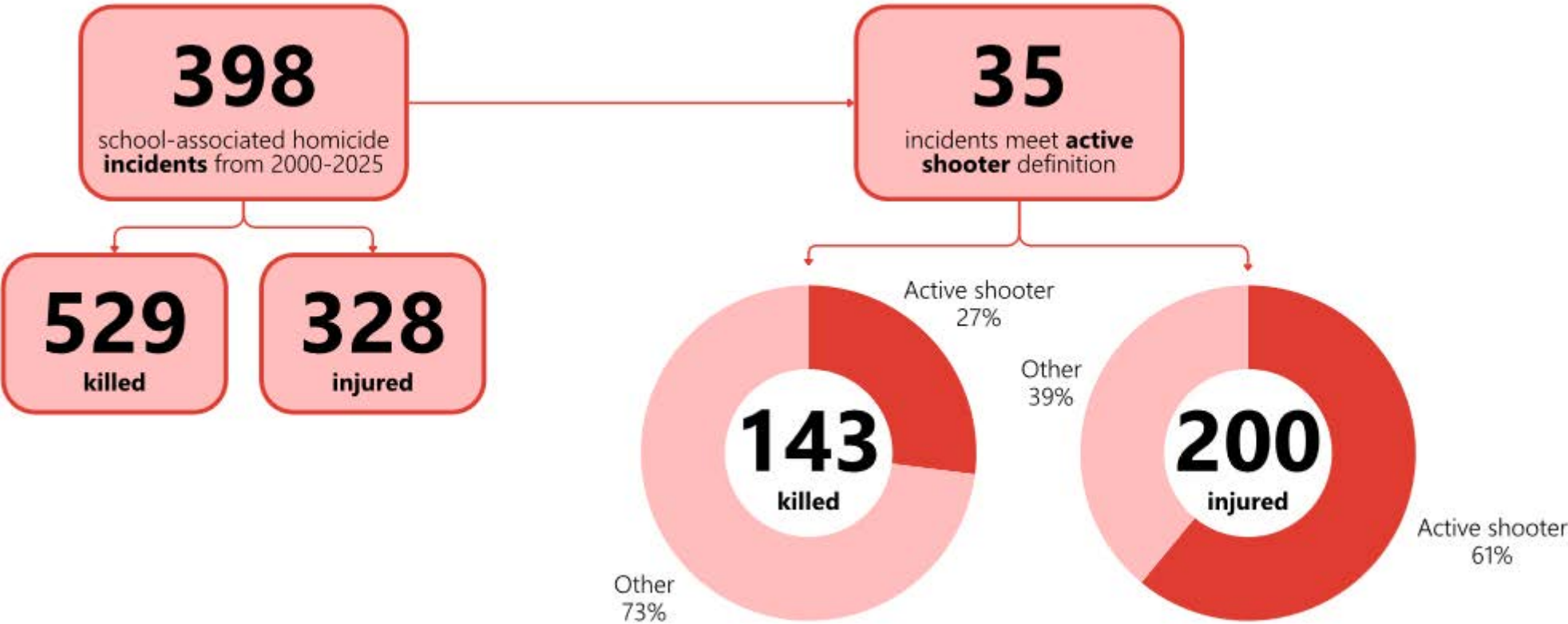
- Part of the process will be to merge and consolidate

Schools are community hubs and touch many lives

- Who is responsible for the work that goes on in them?

The goal today is to examine best practices that set the foundation for future recommendations

K-12 Active School Shooters



The Violence Prevention
Project's K-12 School
Homicide Database

Shooters are “insiders”

80% of active shooters were **current or former students** at the school



The average age of K-12 school active shooters is **20**.

80% of perpetrators were **21 or younger**.

8 of **35** perpetrators were **15 years old**.

79.4% of active shooter incidents occurred **inside the school building**.

Shooters are in crisis

45%

have documented
trauma histories



Family
instability



Abuse



Chronic
victimization

74.2%

exhibited at least one
warning sign



Increased
aggression



Fascination
with
weapons

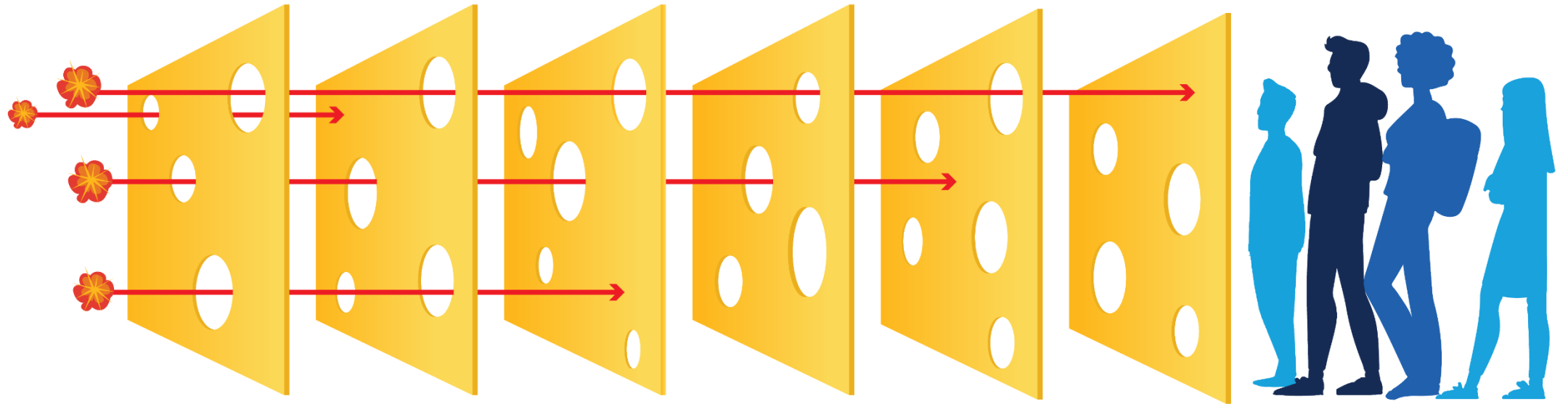


Hopelessness
or despair



Withdrawal
or isolation

Combined Efforts



School Violence Presentation



Presented by

- Dr. Macarre Traynham, MDE
- Dr. Matt Hillmann, MASA
- Dr. Deb Henton, MASA

Today's Essential Questions



Prevention: How are schools preparing to prevent violence to prioritize student safety?

Intervention: How are schools planning to intervene to interrupt violence at their school?

Response: How are schools preparing to respond to acts of violence?

Recovery: How do schools plan to recover following acts of violence?

1. Threat Assessment Teams
2. Mental Health Supports
3. Staff Training
4. School Safety Planning
5. Social-emotional Learning (SEL)
6. Student Connectedness Efforts
7. Family and Community Partnerships



- Evidence based school violence prevention programs such as Life Skills training, Good Behavior game, PATHS – Promoting alternative thinking strategies
- School and Community based mental health supports
- Safe and supportive schools act
- School violence prevention requirement in health education
- Whole School, Whole Child, Whole Community (WSCC) mode

Mental Health Supports - 1

- Comprehensive School Mental Health systems
- New Health Standards
 - Mandate mental health education
- School-linked mental health grants
 - Expanded access to school counselors, social workers, psychologists, and mental health practitioners
- Student wellness centers and support programs
- Suicide prevention and crisis intervention training
- Full-service community schools/grants
- READ Act



- Interconnected Systems Framework
- School-linked mental health grants
 - Expanded access to licensed mental health practitioners/professionals
- School Based Health Centers, School Wellness Centers
- Suicide prevention required for teacher re-licensure
- Crisis intervention training for SROs
- Project AWARE

School Safety Planning



- Traditional safety drills
- Tabletop exercises
- Response models and protocols
- Staff training
- Anonymous reporting systems (Sandy Hook Promise and Fusion Center)
- Crisis plans
- Model policies

School Connectedness

- Attendance pilot
- Check and Connect
- Restorative practices
- Advisory programs
- Equity magnifier
- Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instructional Services (ADSIS)
- Culture and climate of the school
- Minnesota Student Survey
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and Social Emotional Learning
- Link Crew/WEB



Family and Community Partnerships

Fostering civil discourse

- Braver Angels presentations (MASA, MSBA, individual districts)

Dignity Index (MASA, AMSD presentations)

Parent advisory Groups

- American Indian parent advisory
- Special Education advisory committees

Adjacent partnerships

- MSHSL Together 4.0 Initiative
- Minnesota Youth Council





“Turn and
Talk”
discussions

Generate one
critical
takeaway
regarding
preventions.

Intervention



- Cell phone policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Specialized peer leader training (Hazelden)
- Anonymous threat reporting system
- “I Love U Guys” Standard Response Protocol
- Run, hide, fight
- ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate)
– teachers “options” based on the circumstances
- Crisis plans



“Turn and
talk”

Generate one
takeaway
regarding
interventions.

Response and recovery

- Student Support Interventions and Response Teams (SSIRTs)
- MDE and Service Cooperatives Regional School Crisis Response Teams (RSCRT)
- District level crisis teams
- School violence prevention at MDE that partners with DPS and the School Safety Center
- “I Love U Guys” standard reunifications protocol
- Frameworks such as PREPaRE (National Association of School Psychologists)
- Crisis plans





“Turn and
talk”

Generate one
takeaway
regarding
response and
recovery.

Planning Team Recommendations

Elevate student voice and leadership focused on non-violence.



Reporting and data sharing policies (recent legislation).



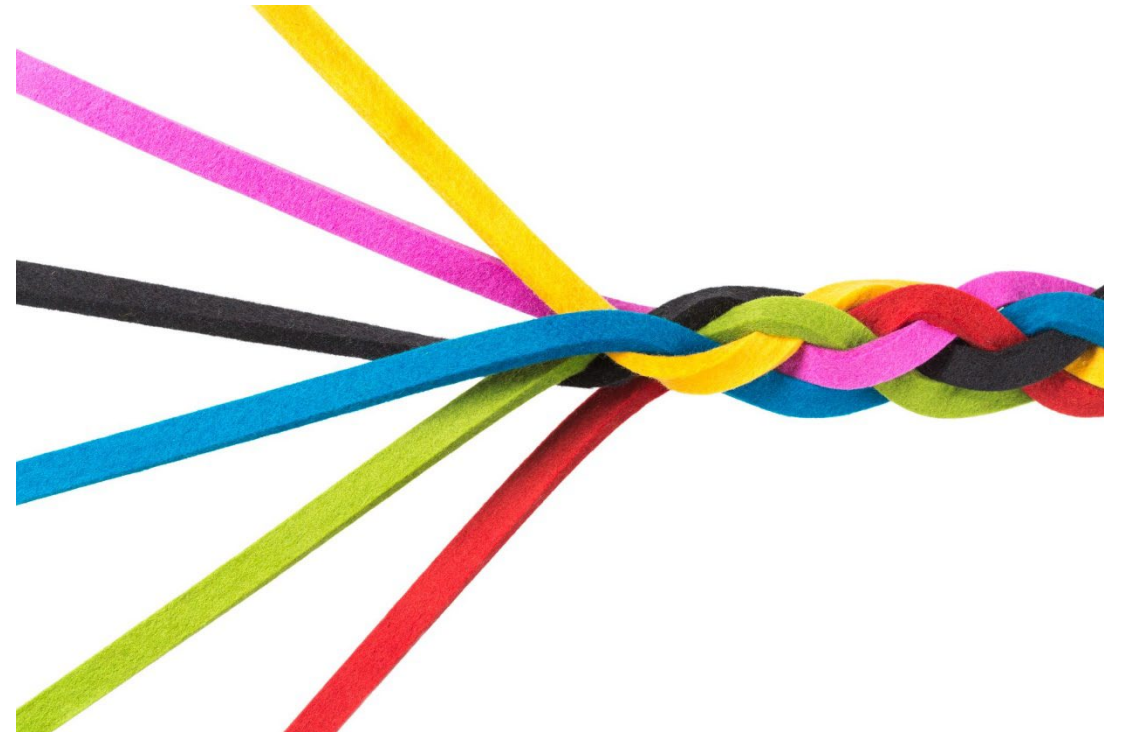
Further clarify the shared responsibility and data sharing for mental health support (family, school, county, and state agencies).



Increase sense of belonging through removing barriers to participation in after-school activities, both at school and in the community (collective impact model).

Whole group discussion Question #1

If you agree that solutions for school-based prevention, intervention, and recovery are “collective responsibilities”, *how are such programs going to work? Who drives the program and pays for it? Who is ultimately accountable?*





Whole group
discussion
Question #2

When school systems
including MDE
consider or
incorporate safety
programming, how
should those
programs be vetted
for effectiveness?

*To get beyond partisan divides, what are the **shared values around collective responsibility** for safe schools that everyone could support?*



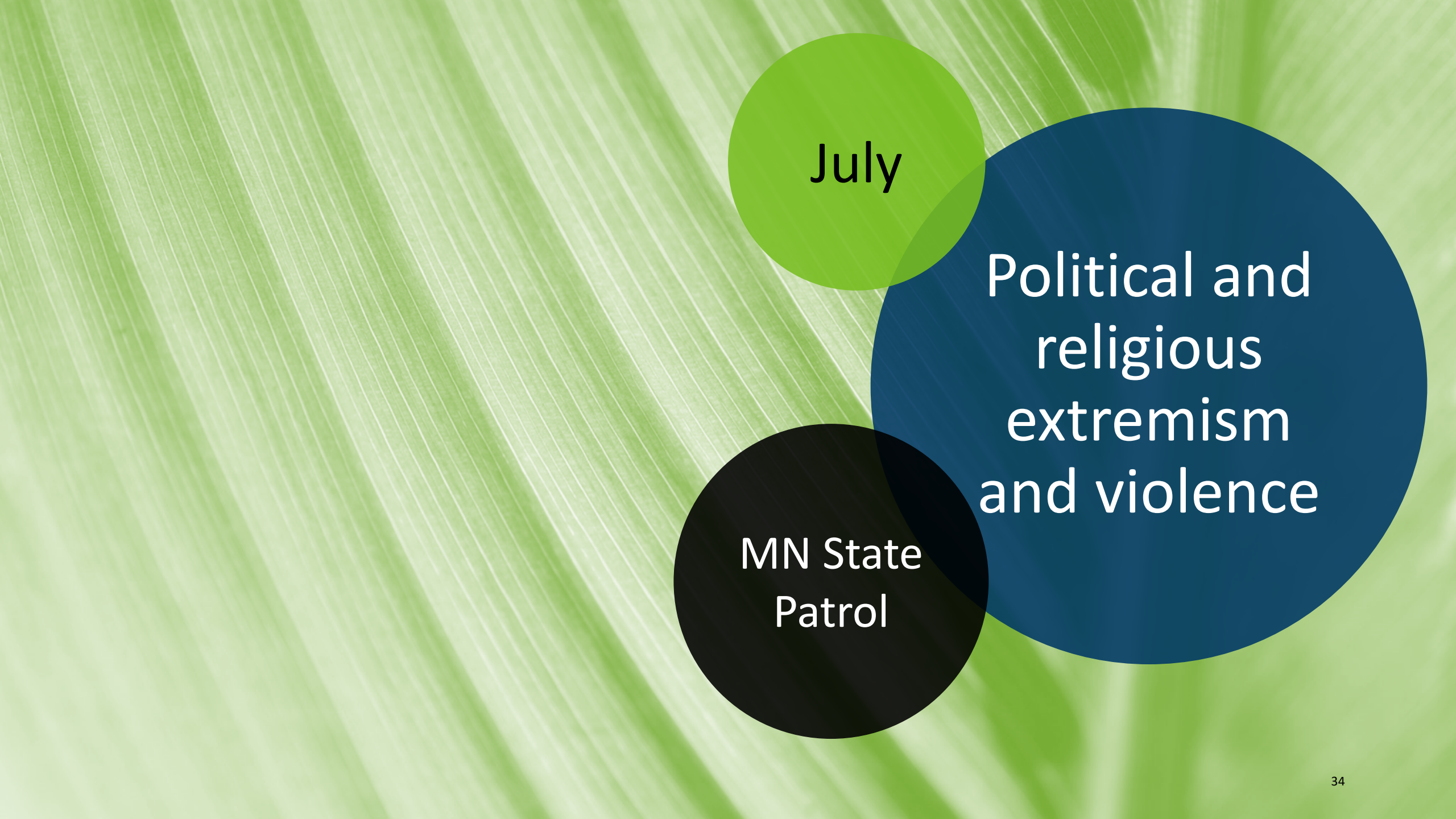
Assignment

You will receive draft **school prevention, intervention and recovery** recommendations by next Wednesday (7/1). Please provide your gradients feedback by EOD Wednesday (7/8).

July 23 meeting

- Political and religious extremism and violence
- Back here at **Veterans Service Building!**





July

Political and
religious
extremism
and violence

MN State
Patrol