



**COLORADO**  
Office of School Safety  
Department of Public Safety

# 2023 Colorado Safe Schools Summit October 19 - 20, 2023

Adams 12 Conference Center  
1500 E 128th Ave., Thornton, CO 80241  
And Virtual

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*In collaboration with:*



CENTER FOR THE  
STUDY AND PREVENTION  
OF VIOLENCE



University of Colorado **Boulder**

**2**  
safe tell<sup>™</sup>  
Colorado





*WHEREAS, education is paramount to the future of our state and nation; and*

*WHEREAS, excellence in education and academic achievement is dependent on safe, secure and respectful learning environments; and*

*WHEREAS, it is important for community leaders - public, private, law enforcement, fire safety, emergency management, business and non-profit - to join with educators and the Office of School Safety to help ensure that our schools remain safe and positive environments that are conducive to learning; and*

*WHEREAS, the observance of Safe Schools Month serves to remind us of the importance of safe school environments;*

*THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2023, as*

#### *SAFE SCHOOLS MONTH*

*in the State of Colorado.*



*GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of October, 2023*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

*Jared Polis  
Governor*

# Acknowledgments

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Colorado Office of School Safety, Colorado Department of Public Safety would like to thank the following agencies and organizations for helping make this Summit possible:

- 27J Schools District
- Adams 12 Five Star School District
- American University School of Education
- Biscuits & Berries Catering
- Boulder Valley School District
- Centennial Mental Health
- Center for Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado, Boulder
- Children's Hospital
- Colorado Department of Education
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, CDPS
- Colorado Office of Gun Violence Prevention, CDPHE
- Colorado School District Self Insurance Pool
- Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL)
- Denver Public Schools
- Denver Youth Program, Gang Rescue and Support Project (GRASP)
- Moms Demand Action
- Office of the CO Attorney General
- One Chance to Grow Up
- Problem Gambling Center of Colorado
- RE-1 Valley School District
- Safe2Tell®
- Summitstone Mental Health Partners
- Thompson School District
- University of Indiana, Department of Sociology

## Special thanks to:

- The Honorable Jared Polis, Governor
- The Honorable Phil Weiser, Attorney General
- The Colorado Legislature
- Stan Hilkey, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Safety
- Jana Locke, Deputy Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Safety
- Beverly Kingston, Director, Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, University of Colorado, Boulder
- Stacey Jenkins, Director, Safe2Tell, Colorado Attorney General's Office
- Jordan Clark, Vice President of Outreach & Engagement, Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL)
- Jonathan McMillan, Director, Colorado Office of Gun Violence Prevention, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
- Abraham Lincoln High School 7th Battalion Color Guard, Denver Public Schools, SFC (R) Jason Johnson, JROTC Instructor



Special “Thank You” to Our Sponsor



Since 2008, the **Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab** (CELL), a non-profit, non-partisan institute, has provided a comprehensive look at the threat of terrorism and violent extremism and how individuals can play a role in preventing it, ultimately enhancing public safety. Through its acclaimed exhibit, distinguished speaker series, and training programs, the CELL provides an important service in enhancing the safety and security of our nation. Many of the CELL's initiatives complement the critical efforts set forth by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and have been nationally recognized.

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# Special “Thank You” to Our Sponsor



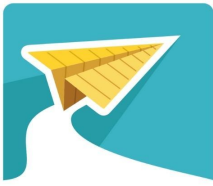
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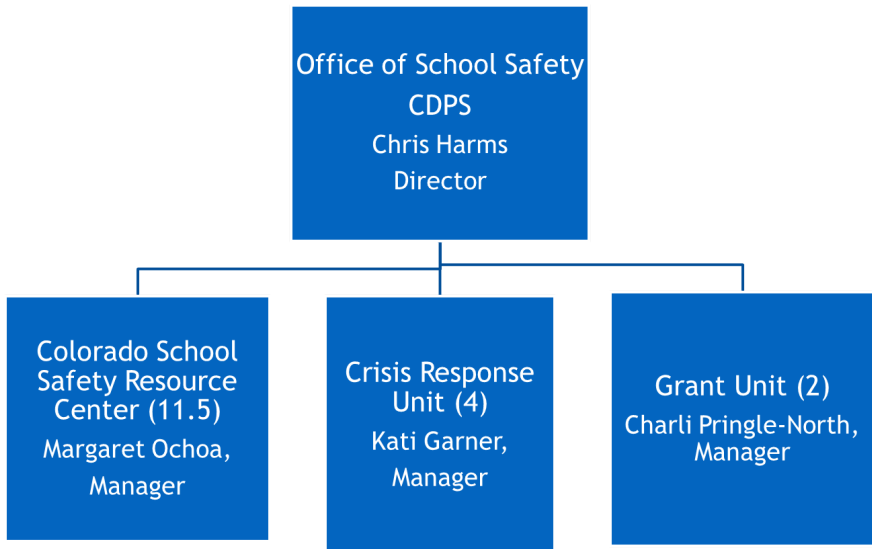
[www.reachwellapp.com](http://www.reachwellapp.com)



The Be SMART campaign was launched in 2015 to promote responsible gun ownership in order to reduce child gun deaths.



# OSS Organization Chart



The new Office of School Safety was created by SB23-241 in July 2023. This umbrella office now encompasses the Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC), the Crisis Response Unit and the Grants Unit.

The CSSRC, led by Margaret Ochoa, will continue to provide training, resources, consultation and technical assistance to all schools across the state including Pre-K to 12th grade and institutions of higher education.

The Crisis Response Unit, led by Kati Garner, will be available to train school mental health professionals and administrators in best practices for crisis situations. The team will also be available to assist with a critical incident when needed.

The Grants Unit, led by Charli Pringle-North, will manage any school safety grants offered by the state as well as assist schools with grant writing workshops. This unit has already released the Youth Violence Prevention Grant. Please see the website for more information. [oss.colorado.gov](https://oss.colorado.gov).

**Thursday, October 19, 2023**

**Session Details**

**7:30 AM - 8:00 AM Check In and Continental Breakfast**

Check in at the front desk and proceed to pick up breakfast items.

**8:00 AM - 8:15 AM Welcome and Introductions**

**Opening Ceremony**

**Christine R. Harms, Director, Colorado Office of School Safety**

**Color Guard, Abraham Lincoln High School 7th Battalion**

**Instructor: Jason Johnson, JROTC Instructor**

**Stan Hilkey, Executive Director,  
Colorado Department of Public Safety**

**Beverly Kingston, Director,  
Center for the Study & Prevention of Violence**

**8:15 AM - 9:45 AM Plenary: BVSD Team**

**Randy Barber, Chief Communications Officer**

**Adriana Favila, McKinney-Vento Specialist**

**Carey Jensen, Director of Facilities**

**Tammy Lawrence, Director of Student Support Services**

**Ema Lyman, BVSD Bilingual McKinney-Vento Specialist &  
Bilingual Child Welfare Liaison**

**David Self, Safety and Security Manager**

**Brendan Sullivan, Director - Safety, Security and Emergency  
Services**

**Living Through and Learning From Colorado's Worst  
Wildfire**

Disasters strike when you least expect it. That certainly was the case in the Marshall Fire, which killed two people and destroyed

more than 1,000 homes in Superior, Louisville and unincorporated Boulder County on December 30, 2021. It was the middle of Winter Break during a time of the year when wildfires were unheard of. The Boulder Valley School District team will share how preparations readied them for the most destructive wildfire in Colorado's history and the lessons learned, even today, as BVSD continues to address the impacts of this tragedy.

**9:45 AM - 10:00 AM Break**

**10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Plenary: Cynthia Miller-Idriss, Ph.D.**

School of Public Affairs & School of Education at the  
American University, Washington, DC

**Introduction by Jordan Clark, Vice President of Outreach & Engagement with the Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL)**

**Champion Change: What Can We Do to Address Extremist Threats to Democracy?**

In this powerful, dynamic presentation, you will:

- Discover the surprising recruitment methods of today's extremists
- Examine how youth & marginalized groups are targeted by recruiters
- Empower you to take an active role in preventing the rise of extremism.

**11:30 AM - 12:15 PM Lunch**

**Stacey Jenkins, Director, Safe2Tell**  
Office of the Colorado Attorney General

**Jonathan McMillan, Director**  
Colorado Office of Gun Violence Prevention

**12:15 PM - 1:45 PM Plenary: Anna Mueller, Ph.D.**

Luther Dana Waterman Associate Professor of Sociology,  
Indiana University, Bloomington

**Harnessing School Systems to Prevent Suicide  
(While Not Burning Out Overworked School Staff)**

Schools are widely recognized as a critical place for suicide prevention, and yet, schools often struggle to enact effective suicide prevention, particularly when resources are limited. Drawing on data from a community-engaged research project with a Front Range, Colorado school district and three high schools, this presentation will demonstrate how we can improve school suicide prevention strategies by harnessing existing systems in schools. By the end of this presentation, the audience will have increased information about (1) youth suicide and (2) how to prevent suicide in their schools, including actionable strategies for positive change.

**1:45 PM - 2:00 PM Break**

**2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Plenary: Johnnie Williams**

Executive Director, Gang Rescue and Support Project (GRASP),  
Denver Youth Program

**Gangs: From The Cradle to the Grave**

Gang violence often assumes a life of its own; youth who join gangs are more likely to be involved in delinquency and crime. This session will offer a history and overview of gang violence, proceed to local trends in gang violence across the Denver Metro area, and will conclude with key knowledge and action that school administrators need to identify and reduce risk of gang violence within the purview of their

work. Attendees of this talk will gain greater awareness of support needed for youth and families, productive ways to address school climate, and comfort in identifying and reducing root causes of violence through opportunities provision within the school population.

### **3:30 PM   Adjournment**

**Please trade your completed evaluation from today for a certificate of attendance at the registration tables.**

# Friday, October 20, 2023

## VIRTUAL ONLY

**8:00 AM**                      **Virtual Sign On**

**8:15 AM - 8:30 AM**    **Welcome and Introductions**  
Christine R. Harms, Director, Colorado Office of School Safety  
  
Margaret M. Ochoa, Manager, Colorado School Safety Resource Center

**8:30 AM - 9:30 AM**    **First Break Out Session**

Option One	S2T Messaging and the Importance of Student Voice Brett Cogswell, Safe to Tell
Option Two	Using a Comprehensive Approach to Address School Safety Amanda Matthews, Center for the Study & Prevention of Violence, CU Boulder
Option Three	Threat Assessment by the Numbers: Using Data to Enhance School Practice Kati Garner, Colorado Office of School Safety
Option Four	Landscape of Support: Mental Health Professionals Krista Klabo, Colorado Department of Education
Option Five	An Introduction to Human Trafficking in Colorado Camerron Resener, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice

**9:30 AM - 9:45 AM**    **Break**

**9:45 AM - 10:45 AM**    **Second Breakout Session**

Option One	Using a Multi-tiered System of Support to Transform School Climate & Increase Belonging Andrea Pulskamp, Colorado Department of Education
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<b>Option Two</b>	<b>Using Emergency Operations Center Concepts During School Incidents</b> <b>Rachael Whitney, 27J Schools District</b>
<b>Option Three</b>	<b>Engaging Activities to Promote a Shared Ownership of Crisis Preparedness</b> <b>Jane Lineman &amp; Meghan Kimball, Denver Public Schools</b>
<b>Option Four</b>	<b>Collaborative Management Plans: An Explanation for Schools</b> <b>Andie Scott, Colorado Department of Human Services</b>
<b>Option Five</b>	<b>School Safety &amp; Security Assessments</b> <b>Brad Stiles, Colorado School Safety Resource Center</b>

**10:45 AM - 11:00 AM Break**

**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Third Breakout Session**

<b>Option One</b>	<b>The Faces of Youth Homelessness</b> <b>Lisle Reed, Adams 12 Five Star School District</b>
<b>Option Two</b>	<b>The Evolution of Threat Assessment: 20 Years of Research</b> <b>Sarah Goodrum, Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, CU Boulder</b>
<b>Option Three</b>	<b>Supporting School Care &amp; Recovery in Rural Colorado</b> <b>K. Schell, M. Miller &amp; J. Reyes, Centennial Mental Health and Sterling School District</b>
<b>Option Four</b>	<b>Mental Health Considerations in Athletics</b> <b>Kelly Addington, Colorado School Safety Resource Center</b>
<b>Option Five</b>	<b>Safe2Tell Report Recipients Best Practices</b> <b>Nicole Lundeen</b> <b>Safe to Tell</b>

**12:00 PM - 12:45 PM Lunch Break**

## 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM Fourth Breakout Session

Option One	Implementing Co-Response into your School Safety System Joe Vodjansky, Thompson School District Michelle Sylvester, Summitstone Mental Health Partners
Option Two	OSS Grants & Crisis Services for School Staff Chris Harms and Kati Garner, Office of School Safety
Option Three	Youth Suicide Prevention: A Comprehensive Approach K. Hoagland, H. Fageeh & E. Fine CO Dept. of Public Health & Environment
Option Four	Trauma Informed Practices in Schools Lea Bernstein-Holmes Colorado School Safety Resource Center
Option Five	Overdoses in Colorado: Prevention & Reflections Jericho Dorsey & Teresa Will CO Dept. of Public Health & Environment

## 1:45 PM - 2:00 PM Break

## 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Fifth Breakout Session

Option One	10 Years Protecting Kids from Today's MJ through Transparency, Education, Empowerment & Policy Julie Dreifaldt One Chance to Grow Up
Option Two	Colorado School Safety: A Legal Manual Michele Berge Office of the CO Attorney General
Option Three	Using Dialectical Behavior Therapy in Schools Stephanie DeJesus Ayala Children's Hospital



Option Four	Youth and Sports Betting Jamie Glick Problem Gambling Center of Colorado
Option Five	Extracurricular and Special Event Preparedness Brad Stiles & Mike Vagher Colorado School Safety Resource Center

Ensure you complete the evaluation at the end of each session to receive your certificate of completion!

Thank you for joining us at the 2023 Summit!

**Friday, October 20, 2023**

**Virtual Session Details**

**7:30 AM - 8:00 AM Virtual Sign On**

**8:00 AM - 8:30 AM Welcome and Introductions**

**Christine R. Harms, Director, Colorado Office of School  
Safety**

**Margaret M. Ochoa, Manager, Colorado School Safety  
Resource Center**

**8:30 AM - 9:30 AM First Break Out Session**

**1. Safe2Tell Messaging and the Importance of Student Voice  
in School Safety**

**Option 1**

**Presenter: Brett Cogswell, Education and Outreach  
Coordinator for Safe2Tell**

Safe2Tell has updated messaging and presentations aimed at inspiring students to be the eyes and ears of their community when it comes to mental health needs and safety concerns. Our student ambassador program is in its third year and has provided us with an invaluable opportunity to incorporate student voice into our messaging. Colorado students have a lot to say, and we can't wait to share their voice!

**2. Using a Comprehensive Approach to Address School Safety  
and Prevent Violence**

**Option 2**

**Presenter: Amanda Matthews, Manager of Organizational  
Development and Implementation, Center for the Study  
and Prevention of Violence**

Research has consistently shown that a comprehensive approach to school safety is necessary to create safe environments for students and staff. But what does it mean to have a comprehensive approach and how do you determine where to start? This presentation will cover what a comprehensive approach looks like in schools through the

Safe Communities Safe Schools Model and how you can take theory to action.

**3. Threat Assessment by the Numbers: Using Data to Enhance School Practice**

**Option 3**

**Presenter: Kati Garner, Crisis Unit Manager, Colorado Office of School Safety**

Leveraging your data is critical for districts and their threat assessment teams. This workshop will help you better understand why threat assessment data matters, how the threat assessment process is a form of data collection and analysis and what you can do to use data to effectively tell your story.

**4. Landscape of Support: School-Based Mental Health Professionals**

**Option 4**

**Presenter: Krista Klabo, Ed.S. NCSP, School Psychology Specialist, Colorado Department of Education**

Learn about how the Colorado Department of Education supports school-based mental health professionals across the state. In this session, we will explore the CDE's comprehensive approach to reviewing trainings and opportunities for continual growth and support in the field. Gain valuable insights into the resources, programs, and collaborative initiatives designed to empower professionals in their vital roles.

**5. An Introduction to Human Trafficking in Colorado**

**Option 5**

**Presenter: Camerron Resener, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Colorado Department of Public Safety**

Human trafficking is a lucrative and thriving industry that takes place around the globe and right here in Colorado. Many victims of this crime are recruited and groomed within the hallways of our schools. This interactive program developed by subject matter experts is designed to provide school personnel, mental health providers, and first

responders looking for an introductory course on human trafficking. The training program provides foundational information on identifying and responding to human trafficking, with case studies rooted in the Colorado context.

**9:30 AM - 9:45 AM Break**

**9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Second Break Out Session**

**6. Using COMTSS to Transform School Climate and Increase Sense of Belonging**

**Option 1**

**Presenter: Andrea Pulskamp, Colorado Department of Education**

This session is a practical exploration into using COMTSS (Colorado's Multi-Tiered System of Supports) to transform school climate, including increasing feelings of physical and psychological safety, increasing relationships and engagement, and improve social, emotional, and behavioral skill building, to positively impact student outcomes. Participants will learn about the research supporting the need for a sense of safety and belonging, school climate best practices that exist within the institutional, interpersonal, and instructional domains, and how to use the five components of COMTSS to make systemic changes. Participants can expect to leave with practical strategies to create a sense of belonging for all students, staff, and families.

**7. Using Emergency Operations Center Concepts during School Incidents**

**Option 2**

**Presenter: Rachael Whitney, Emergency Response and Preparedness Coordinator, 27J Schools**

City, county, and state governments frequently activate Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) when responding to incidents. School administrators and district leaders can utilize EOC concepts and procedures when managing

school-based emergencies. This presentation will provide an overview of EOC concepts and how schools and districts can use these tools when it comes to preparing for and responding to school incidents.

## **8. Engaging Activities to Promote a Shared Ownership of Crisis Preparedness**

### **Option 3**

**Presenter: Jane Lineman, NCSP & Meghan Kimball Roth, EdS, NCSP, Denver Public Schools**

The National Association of School Psychologists PREPaRE Workshop 1 provides school teams the opportunity to learn how to establish and sustain comprehensive school safety efforts that attend to physical and psychological safety. Training aligns with the Standard Response Protocol and supports the development and implementation of school Emergency Operations Plans. Not included in training are activities that foster a shared ownership of crisis preparedness among school crisis teams, educators, and staff. This workshop provides participants with activities that can foster positive culture and climate and aims to extend ownership of crisis preparedness efforts across all educators and staff.

## **9. Collaborative Management Plans: An Explanation for Schools**

### **Option 4**

**Presenter: Andie Scott, Collaborative Management Program Administrator, CO Department of Human Services**

In 2004, Colorado's commitment to improving social service delivery systems gave rise to the Collaborative Management Program (CMP). The Colorado General Assembly passed House Bill 04-1451 to establish CMPs at the county level that would improve outcomes for children, youth, and families involved with multiple agencies. Partners in local CMPs include county departments of human/social services, juvenile justice agencies, local judicial districts, health departments, school districts, community mental health

centers, regional accountable entities, parent or family advocacy groups, and community agencies. This presentation will focus on describing the program and the local implementation of CMPs.

## **10. School Safety and Security Assessments**

### **Option 5**

**Presenter: Brad Stiles, Emergency Response Outreach Consultant, Colorado School Safety Resource Center**

In this session, attendees will learn about common techniques and tactics for assessing the safety of their school and/or district through vulnerability assessments. Vulnerability assessments may assist schools in focusing their emergency planning and spending and are therefore a starting point for all school emergency programs.

**10:45 AM - 11:00 AM Break**

**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Third Break Out Session**

## **11. The Face of Youth Homelessness**

### **Option 1**

**Presenter: Lisle Reed, Whole Child Initiatives Coordinator , Adams 12 Five Star School District**

This workshop will give participants the opportunity to learn about what homelessness looks like in education under the McKinney-Vento Act, and how high mobility impacts a student's access to their learning. Participants will also learn strategies for identifying and supporting all “highly mobile youth” and actions steps they can take to create an environment that elevates learning for these students.

## **12. The Evolution of Threat Assessment: A Review of 20 Years of Research**

### **Option 2**

**Presenter: Sarah Goodrum, Research Professor, University of Colorado & CSPV**

Behavioral threat assessment and management (BTAM) procedures represent a critical tool for evaluating the risk

an individual poses for perpetrating targeted violence in K-12 schools and universities in the U.S. However, questions remain about the best practices for and effectiveness of BTAM procedures. This presentation provides a summary of 20 years of research on the BTAM literature to help understand the evolution of, best practices for, and effectiveness of the process.

### **13. Supporting School Care & Recovery Efforts in Rural Colorado**

#### **Option 3**

**Presenters:** Kris Schell, School Based Mental Health Specialist, Maranda Miller, Prevention Services Program Manager, Centennial Mental Health Center and Jacob Reyes, Sterling Middle School Behavioral Health Specialist

There are a number of things that can happen at any time to individuals, schools and communities that challenge our feelings of safety, emotional stability and healthy coping strategies. The impact of an emergency or crisis on students and staff and ultimately on the educational program can be devastating if intervention does not occur. Without a shared vision and consensus in a response plan, we can become paralyzed through fear, lack of jurisdiction or the necessary ownership. We will explore appropriate and timely responses that depend on shared planning, communication and training to reduce the impact of a crisis.

### **14. Mental Health in Athletics**

#### **Option 4**

**Presenter:** Kelly Addington, SE Training Consultant, Colorado School Safety Resource Center

A student-athlete's mental health is just as important as their physical health. We will discuss how to reduce the stigma around mental health issues in athletics, and identify and address specific risk factors in athletes. In addition, we will explore the link between mental health and athletic performance, recognizing how mental health challenges may manifest in sports performance. Lastly, we will discuss how to provide athletes with tools to manage

stress, develop resilience, and create a healthy work-life balance. The aim of this workshop is to promote mental well-being and learn how to better support athletes in their athletic pursuits.

## **15. Safe2Tell Report Recipients Best Practices**

### **Option 5**

**Presenter: Nicole Lundeen, Safe2Tell Training & Outreach Coordinator**

Since Safe2Tell is an anonymous program, it is important for recipients to know how to respond to Safe2Tell reports and how it correlates with the state statute. It is also important to know how to navigate the P3 program, where all the Safe2Tell reports are housed.

**12:00 PM - 12:45 PM Lunch**

**12:45 PM - 1:45 PM Fourth Breakout Session**

## **16. Implementing Co-Response into your School Safety System**

### **Option 1**

**Presenters: Joe Vodjansky, Thompson School District, Michelle Sylvester, Summitstone Mental Health Partners**

The Thompson School District is excited to share the successes and opportunities of its first ever Co-Response Unit. The Model in Thompson Schools consists of an SRO and Clinician teaming up and working together to support students and their emotional safety. Additionally, through various successes this unit is an integral part of the district's threat assessment process, suicide risk assessment process, and various other supports. This unit has been an incredible support for our district and has truly changed the landscape of Safety and Security in Thompson School for the better!

## **17. OSS Grant & Crisis Services for Schools**

### **Option 2**

**Presenter: Christine Harms, Kati Garner, and recently hired staff from the Grants Unit, Colorado Office of School Safety**



The Office of School Safety (OSS) staff will explain the resources that will be available from the Grants Unit and the Crisis Response Unit of the new office and how districts can access those resources.

**18. Youth Suicide Prevention: A Comprehensive Approach  
Option 3**

**Presenter:** Kirstin Hoagland, Connectedness Specialist, Hana Fageeh, Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator, and Emily Fine, School and Youth Survey Manager, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

This workshop will discuss recent youth suicide prevention data, a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention, and the state's effort to develop a suicide prevention model policy. The first half of the presentation will be slides with an overview of these three aspects. The second half of the workshop will be an interactive discussion to inform the model policy.

**19. Trauma Informed Practices in the Schools  
Option 4**

**Presenter:** Lea Bernstein-Holmes, School Outreach Coordinator, Colorado School Safety Resource Center

This workshop will introduce participants to an overview of the Adverse Childhood Experiences study and the biological and psychological impacts of trauma on the developing brain. From there, participants will learn about potential indicators and behaviors that may be a result of trauma and best-practices in addressing these behaviors and supporting the student in a safe, trauma-informed way.

**20. Overdose In Colorado: Prevention and Reflections  
Option 5**

**Presenters:** Jericho Dorsey, Naloxone Bulk Fund Coordinator, and Teresa Will, Naloxone Bulk Fund Administrator, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

This workshop will provide an overview of Colorado's recent overdose and substance use trends while specifically

addressing how to implement strategies such as harm reduction and evidence-based education with young people to reduce the risks associated with drug use. Participants learn how to administer and access naloxone and receive an overview of the state's overdose prevention resources and efforts, including the Naloxone Bulk Purchase Fund. We will leave time for a Q&A section and a discussion on what community partners are seeing in their communities for addressing overdose prevention with youth.

**1:45 PM - 2:00 PM Break**

**2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Fifth Breakout Session**

**21. Ten Years Protecting Kids from Today's Marijuana through Transparency, Education, Empowerment and Policy Option 1**

**Presenter: Julie Dreifaldt- Community Liaison, One Chance To Grow Up**

This workshop teaches how to coordinate the engagement of elected officials, school health partners, concerned parents, educators and staff to secure youth safeguards for THC. We will offer ways to educate the community on today's THC products( including hemp-derived THC) and potencies to close harmful gaps in understanding. We will discuss case studies at the local and state level that promote the implementation of policies and grassroots efforts that better protect youth from the negative consequences of commercialized marijuana.

**22. Colorado School Safety: A Legal Manual Option 2**

**Presenter: Michelle Berge, First Assistant Attorney General K-12 Unit, Colorado Department of Law**

This workshop will cover the Colorado Attorney General's Legal Manual on school safety. This manual provides an overview of state and federal laws that relate to school safety. The training will cover the Safe Schools Act, student

searches, student discipline, restraints, and information sharing.

## **23. Utilizing Dialectical Behavior Therapy in Schools**

### **Option 3**

**Presenter: Stephanie De Jesus Ayala, Program Manager, Children's Hospital**

Research shows that suicides among 12-18yr are highest during the school year and lowest during the summer months. Dialectal behavior therapy (DBT) has been shown to improve the mental wellness of teens and adolescents as well as reduce rates of suicide. DBT is an evidenced-based, skills-focused, therapeutic modality that can be easily adapted to the school setting. Applying brief DBT skills and principles in the school environment has shown to be efficacious in reducing mental health concerns. This session will focus on understanding the principles and foundation of DBT and how to apply these skills in the school setting.

## **24. Understanding the Gamble: Navigating Youth Gambling, Sports Betting, and Video Game Connections**

### **Option 4**

**Presenter: Jamie Glick, Gambling Coalition Center of Colorado**

This workshop is designed for educational professionals working with youth, providing valuable insights into youth gambling, sports betting, and their connection to video games. Through interactive discussions, participants will learn to recognize warning signs and risk factors associated with youth gambling. The workshop will specifically address the link between video games and gambling, examining how video game mechanics normalize gambling behaviors and desensitize youth to its risks. By the end of the workshop, participants will be empowered with a comprehensive understanding of youth gambling, sports betting, and their connection to video games. Participants will be prepared to create a safer environment and mitigate the potential negative impacts of youth gambling.

## **25. Extracurricular and Special Event Preparedness**

### **Option 5**

**Presenter: Brad Stiles, Emergency Response Outreach Consultant, Mike Vagher, Eastern Regional Training Consultant, Colorado School Safety Resource Center**

In this workshop, attendees will learn about the tasks necessary to prepare their school and community for large scale and athletic events. Learn from a former Athletic Director/ Superintendent and a security expert about what you can be doing to mitigate risks, prepare your staff and involve your community in these critical events. Resources, tips and tricks will be shared.

**3:00 PM**

**Adjournment**

**Ensure you complete the evaluation at the end of each presentation to receive your certificate of completion!**

**Thank you!**

## Plenary Speakers

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### Cynthia Miller- Idriss, Ph.D.

Dr. Cynthia Miller-Idriss is a Professor in the School of Public Affairs and in the School of Education at the American University in Washington, DC, where she is also the founding director of the Polarization and Extremism Research and Innovation Lab (PERIL). She is a Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation Entrepreneur and recently served as the inaugural creative lead for the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's residency program on social cohesion in Berlin, Germany.

Dr. Miller-Idriss regularly testifies before the U.S. Congress and briefs policy, security, education and intelligence agencies in the U.S., the United Nations, and other countries on trends in domestic violent extremism and strategies for prevention and disengagement. She is the author, co-author, or co-editor of six books, including her most recent book, *Hate in the Homeland: The New Global Far Right* (Princeton University Press, 2022). Dr. Miller-Idriss writes frequently for mainstream audiences, as an opinion columnist for MSNBC and in other recent by-lines in The New York Times, The Atlantic, Foreign Affairs, The Washington Post, Politico, USA Today, The Boston Globe, and more.

### Anna Mueller, Ph.D.

Anna S. Mueller, PhD, is the Luther Dana Waterman Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Irsay Institute at Indiana University. She is the author of the forthcoming book *Life Under Pressure: The Social Roots of Youth Suicide and What to Do About them* (Oxford University Press, 2024). Her research aims to identify effective, equitable, and sustainable strategies to prevent suicide in schools and their communities. Her research on youth suicide has received numerous awards for its contribution to knowledge, including the Edwin Shneidman Early Career Award from the American Association of Suicidology. Her work is supported by grant funding from the National Institute of Mental Health, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and the Western Colorado Community

Foundation. She is passionate about helping schools, families, and communities find better ways to prevent suicide and to heal after suicide losses.

### **Johnnie Williams**

Johnnie Williams is the Executive Director of GRASP, the Gang Rescue and Support Project, a program under the umbrella of Denver Youth Program. Mr. Williams joined GRASP in July of 2008 and has worked with youth for over 25 years, providing constructive alternatives to gangs and other destructive activities that result from and contribute to a cycle of hopelessness among youth.

He facilitates support groups and healing circles, manages a city-wide black and brown unity council, and leads the only hospital-based violence intervention program in the Rocky Mountain West.

Mr. Williams is a subject matter expert in crisis intervention, group facilitation, child abuse prevention, life skills training, violence prevention, serving as a criminal justice specialist and an addictions counselor. He leverages positive youth development at the service of what he believes to be the most rewarding outcome of his work: supporting youth as they change their lives for the better, becoming the fullest version of themselves.

### **The Boulder Valley School District Presentation Team**

#### **Randy Barber - Chief Communications Officer**

Randy Barber has been in school communications for 12 years. The past six years have been at the Boulder Valley School District with 28,000 students at 56 schools. The remainder of his time in school PR was at the Douglas County School District, which had 67,000 students. Previously, he was in television news at the NBC affiliate in Denver, where he developed his passion for storytelling and large-scale events and won an Emmy in 2008 as part of the team that produced YourShow, a groundbreaking interactive interview news show, which featured interviews with popular and powerful guests with questions from viewers. Randy

has a tremendous amount of experience in crisis communications both as a journalist covering stories like the massacre at Columbine High School and 9/11 and as a school communicator during wildfires, the pandemic and a mass shooting in the community.

### **Adriana Favila - McKinney-Vento Specialist**

Adriana Favila is a dynamic and creative bilingual professional with strong people and listening skills, and with multi-industry experience in social work, management, education, training, holistic therapies, naturopathy, and logistics. Currently Adriana is one of the two McKinney-Vento Specialists at Boulder Valley School District where she provides a safe space for the people she works with and connects them to the support they need. Born and raised in Mexico City, Adriana attended Universidad Iberoamericana obtaining her bachelor degree in Economics. She immigrated to Texas in 2004. Between the years 2012 and 2023 Adriana got certifications for holistic therapies and naturopathic medicine creating her own practice where she acted as a therapist providing tools and techniques to her clients in order to help them cope with and manage emotions in a balanced and constructive way. In 2020 Adriana moved to Boulder, Colorado she enjoys hiking, writing and reading in her free time.

### **Carey Jensen - Director of Facilities**

Carey Jensen is the Director of Facilities for Boulder Valley Schools. She has over 20 years' experience in the Environmental industry and has spent the past 10 years in Facility Maintenance in the K-12 sector. With experience in facility operations, consulting, emergency response, and regulatory compliance. She holds a Master's degree in Occupational Safety and Health and is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager and Facility Management Professional.

### **Tammy Lawrence - Director of Student Support Services**

Tammy Lawrence is the Director of Student Support Services for the Boulder Valley School District. She has dedicated 29 years to education. Her journey has been incredibly diverse, spanning roles from teaching early childhood, elementary and high

school students to serving as a dedicated high school counselor. She has also had the privilege of contributing to district leadership for the past 10 years, where she has worked to make a lasting impact on education. She currently supports efforts in mental health, trauma response and K-12 school counseling. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Behavioral Sciences, a Master's degree in Educational School Counseling and Administration. She also holds a Colorado Department of Education license in school counseling, administration and various teaching licenses, including Career and Technical Education. Her latest efforts include the expansion of Wellness Center implementation in high schools across the Boulder Valley School District, the first of these such centers being established as a response to the Marshall Fire.

### **Ema Lyman - BVSD Bilingual McKinney Vento Specialist & Bilingual Child Welfare Liaison**

Ema Lyman was born and raised in Chile. Ema Lyman immigrated to the US in 1980 and continued studies in Architecture/Design, graduating from CU Boulder 1982 with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Design and Planning. Upon career shift, employed at the Boulder Valley School District since 2000, while going back to CU and earning a Master's Degree in Multicultural Education in 2009. Currently holding the position of McKinney Vento Specialist (tending to students undergoing a lack of fixed, regular or adequate nighttime situation) and Child Welfare Liaison (tending to students in foster care). Also, volunteer board member of community organizations: TGTHR (homeless youth support); EFAA-Emergency Family Assistance Association and Impact on Education- sister non-profit to BVSD. "I have aligned my professional and personal values, interests and efforts in a very cohesive manner. I enjoy being an active member of my community of Boulder CO for the past 43 years, and engage by participating in various endeavors, programs, initiatives, and social justice efforts."

### **David Self - Safety and Security Manager**



David Self is a husband of 20 years, and a father of two. In addition to his commitment to family and his profession, David passionately pursues two personal interests: fitness and travel. Professionally, David concluded a two decade law enforcement career as a patrol commander with the Lafayette Police Department in August, 2021. Among the various roles he undertook during his law enforcement career, David holds a special place in his heart for his time as a school resource officer at Centaurus High School within the City of Lafayette. This particular assignment not only contributed to his personal and professional growth, but also forged a connection between him and the Boulder Valley School District. Presently, David assumes the role of Safety and Security Manager within the Boulder Valley School District. With nearly twenty three years of expertise in public safety, and equipped with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, David stands as a proud member of the district's safety team.

### **Brendan Sullivan - Director - Safety, Security and Emergency Services**

Brendan Sullivan has proudly served as the Director of Safety, Security and Emergency Management for Boulder Valley School District since August 2017. Brendan is a passionate advocate for students' well being and is driven by a deep commitment to ensuring their safety. In this role, he develops and executes a long-term safety and security strategy and oversees security operations that serve approximately 28,000 students and 4,500 staff on 62 campuses located across 500 square miles. BVSD benefits from Brendan's over two decades in law enforcement in various leadership roles and assignments including patrol, detective, Special Operations and as the leader of the department's School Resource Officers. Brendan also brings extensive experience in critical incident management and experience from his time as a member of a county Emergency Management Team.

## **Presenters - Workshop & Breakout Speakers in Alphabetical Order**

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### **Kelly Addington**

Kelly Addington was born and raised in Southeastern Colorado. She received her bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Northern Colorado. She taught for 16 years before obtaining her master's degree in School Counseling from Adams State University. After working as a school counselor, she began a career as a School Health Professional with Santa Fe Trail BOCES, servicing school districts with social/emotional and substance use preventative education to students, staff, and families. Kelly is also a certified Mental Health First Aid Trainer, and a certified PREPaRE I & II Trainer. She is the SE Regional Training Consultant for the CSSRC.

### **Michelle Berge**

Michelle Berge is a school law attorney and senior leader with more than a decade of experience supporting schools, districts, and education at the local and state level. Currently at the Attorney General's Office, Michelle leads the K-12 education unit, which represents the Colorado Department of Education and the State Board of Education. Prior to working for the state, Michelle was the General Counsel for Denver Public Schools and a member of the district's Senior Leadership Team. At the school district, she was deeply involved in legal and policy issues related to school discipline and school safety. Michelle is also certified in trauma-informed professional coaching and is fluent in Spanish.

### **Lea Bernstein-Holmes**

Lea was born and raised in the Denver metro area and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado, her Masters in Social Work from Colorado State University, her postgraduate certificate in Marriage and Family Therapy, and her Masters in Educational Leadership from Regis University. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and holds her SSP and principal's license. Prior to working in schools, Lea worked with

adolescents with eating disorders in a hospital setting and as an intake child protection caseworker. She now serves as the School Outreach Consultant at the CSSRC.

### **Brett Cogswell**

Brett Cogswell is the trainer and outreach coordinator for Safe2Tell. She worked as a teacher in Denver Public Schools for 11 years. She has worked with Safe2Tell since July of 2022 and is thrilled for the opportunity to work with teachers, administrators, and district personnel throughout the state of Colorado on this important topic of school safety through Safe2Tell training and outreach.

### **Stephanie De Jesus Ayala**

Stephanie is a Program Manager at Partners for Children's Mental Health (PCMH). In this role, she develops and implements all school-related programming and trainings for PCMH. She also leads and facilitates mental health trainings for school staff and other youth-serving professionals. She is a first-generation graduate with her Master's in Clinical and Counseling Psychology from Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia, PA. Stephanie is passionate about increasing access to quality mental health care for minoritized youth and families. She has worked in the mental health field at various levels of care providing therapeutic services for children, teens, and families.

### **Kati Garner**

Kati obtained a Bachelor's degree from the University of Wyoming as well as a Masters of Education in School Counseling and Licensed Professional Counseling from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She has worked as a teacher, school counselor and district administrator before joining the Colorado School Safety Resource Center. She has trained and consulted with schools on a number of psychological and physical safety topics before becoming the Manager of the Crisis Response Unit at the OSS.

## **Jericho Dorsey**

Jericho Dorsey is the Naloxone Bulk Fund Coordinator at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. He works to increase access to naloxone in Colorado communities. Jericho grew up in Denver and is a proponent of harm reduction and meeting communities where they are.

## **Julie Dreifaldt**

Julie Dreifaldt is the Community Liaison for One Chance to Grow Up and works closely with educators, coalition members, supporters, and parents throughout the country. Julie regularly educates policymakers, educators and trusted adults about the current problems with THC -- troubling potencies, deceptive products, and needed protections for our nation's children. Julie speaks nationally to parents, trusted adults, youth-serving coalition partners, and school organizations about today's marijuana, its impacts on kids, and how communities can generate actionable narratives to create change. She has a BA in History and English from Mount Vernon Nazarene University.

## **Hana Fageeh**

Hana Fageeh is the Office of Suicide Prevention's Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator. Hana is the project director of OSP's Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Garrett Lee Smith (GLS) grant for youth suicide prevention which funds OSP's youth suicide specific therapy, CAMS training programs, screening and assessment trainings through Columbia Lighthouse Project (CLP) and Education Development (EDC), as well as funding for feedback loops from youth who directly benefit from OSP funded programs.

## **Emily Fine**

Emily Fine works as the School and Youth Survey Manager at the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE). In this role, Emily works to center the voices of young people in youth health surveillance.

## **Jamie Glick**

Jamie has been involved in service delivery and program development for youth mental health and addiction services for over 20 years. He provides training and prevention services for the Problem Gambling Center of Colorado. He also serves as an Adjunct Faculty for the University of Denver School of Social Work.

### **Sarah Goodrum**

Sarah Goodrum is a Research Professor with the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado Boulder. Dr. Goodrum's research focuses on school violence prevention, homicide victimization, and domestic violence. Her publications have appeared in the Journal of Threat Assessment and Management, Behavioral Sciences and the Law, Law and Social Inquiry, Sociological Focus, Criminal Justice Review, and International Journal of Social Research Methodology: Theory & Practice. Her book After Homicide: Victims' Families in the Criminal Justice System chronicles the experiences of families of murder victims from death notification to the trial, is available through Lynne Rienner Publishers (2019).

### **Kristin Hoagland**

Kirstin is the Connectedness Specialist at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Her work focuses on bullying and youth suicide prevention, with an emphasis on building connectedness for youth and their communities.

### **Meghan Kimball**

Meghan Kimball, EdS is a Nationally Certified School Psychologist in the role of a Student Safety Coordinator for Denver Public Schools. She supports the coordination of the DPS District Crisis Recovery Team (DCRT) and the coordination of suicide prevention, intervention and postvention initiatives. She is a PREPaRE and QPR Instructor. She serves on the CSSP Statewide Crisis team and co-chairs the NASP Crisis Management and Grief in Schools Interest Group.

### **Krista Klabo**

Krista Klabo, Ed.S. NCSP serves as the School Psychology Specialist at the Colorado Department of Education. Her main focus is providing support to school psychologists and school social workers in carrying out their roles and responsibilities. Her areas of expertise include special education evaluation and eligibility, mental health support for students with disabilities, and intervention and prevention.

### **Jane Lineman**

Dr. Jane Lineman is a nationally certified School Psychologist in the role of a Team Lead, Student Safety Coordinator with Denver Public Schools. She helps coordinate the district's suicide and violence prevention and response initiatives. She serves as part of the District Crisis Recovery Team and CSSP Crisis Team. She is a NASP PREPaRE and QPR Instructor. She serves as a board member for Second Wind Fund and the CSSRC Advisory Board. She is the elected secretary for the Colorado Society of School Psychologists and SWF Board, and serves as a NCSP Reviewer for the National Association of School Psychologists.

### **Nichole Lundeen**

Nichole Lundeen is the newest Safe2Tell Training & Outreach Coordinator with a focus on law enforcement and the P3 program. Nichole has worked with law enforcement and Safe2Tell for 15 years. Her career began with the Colorado State Patrol as a Communications Officer, where she learned she has a true passion for training others. Nichole's belief in the Safe2Tell program is immeasurable and she couldn't be more excited to combine her two passions to help train others on the importance of Safe2Tell report response.

### **Amanda Matthews**

Amanda Matthews is the Manager of Organizational Development and Implementation at the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence. For the past seven years she has been supporting schools across the state of Colorado on school safety, climate, and culture. Before that, she served as a Peace Corps volunteer, received her MSW, and worked in community

schools. She is passionate about creating and implementing actionable tools that support safe environments in every unique school environment.

### **Maranda Miller**

Maranda has over 18 years of experience in community based suicide prevention and mental health awareness efforts in Northeast Colorado. She currently leads a team of school and community based prevention specialists and is a certified trainer in a variety of evidence based curriculums. She is currently a board member of the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Colorado and chair of the Advocacy Committee as well as a Prevention Certification Committee member.

### **Andrea Pulskamp**

Andrea Pulskamp serves as a State Transformation Specialist for the Colorado Department of Education and supports districts in creating positive school climates that lead to student sense of belonging and improved academic outcomes. Andrea works with districts to identify the needs of their students, staff, and families, recognize disparities in data, implement effective strategies, and engage in continuous improvement. Andrea believes that a sense of belonging is foundational to the academic promise of a school.

### **Lisle Reed**

Lisle Reed has been the Whole Child Initiatives Coordinator for Adams 12 Five Star Schools since 2017. Lisle started her public service in the U.S. Navy as a Chinese Cryptolinguist and Training Coordinator. After an honorable discharge, she discovered a passion for working with youth and spent eight years in Mapleton Public Schools as a Social Studies teacher and a K-8 Assistant Principal. Lisle currently oversees McKinney-Vento Homeless Education, Child Welfare Education, Migrant Education, Afghan Evacuee Education, District Health & Wellness Initiatives, and Restorative Approaches. She holds an M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Colorado State and is a certified trainer in Restorative Practices, Positive Youth Development, and Sources of Strength.

### **Camerron Resener**

Camerron Resener is the Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Lead for the Colorado Human Trafficking Council where she writes curriculum and develops training alongside human trafficking subject matter experts, facilitates the Equitable Access Task Force, and works with communities to build capacity when addressing human trafficking. She has worked on human trafficking and anti-violence issues since 2009 with a variety of organizations in both direct services and think tanks, earning degrees in Psychology from the University of Virginia and a Masters in International Human Rights with concentrations in Human Trafficking and Research from the University of Denver.

### **Jacob Reyes**

Jacob Reyes has lived in Northeast Colorado for the majority of his life and is dedicated to making the lives of our future generations as safe and positive as possible. Jacob has worked for Centennial Mental Health Center in Prevention and during his time there, Jacob was a part of situations where the school response protocol was used to its fullest. Jacob's work as a Prevention Specialist and School Based Behavioral Health Specialist has included has actively used the response protocol in several school settings in Northeast Colorado.

### **Kris Schell**

Kris is a retired school social worker who served on the District Safety Committee and Student Support Services Team. Since joining Centennial's Prevention Team, Kris has played an active role in the development of a coordinated school care and recovery process and protocol to support crisis response efforts.

### **Andie Scott**

Andie Scott is the Collaborative Management Program (CMP) Administrator with the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS). Prior to her work with CDHS, Andie was the CMP Coordinator in Denver County for 4 years and the CMP



Coordinator in Garfield County for 3 years. Andie has her Master's in Civic Leadership from Lipscomb University and Bachelor's in Speech-Language Pathology from Ithaca College. Andie has a passion for supporting positive change in communities through collaboration and loves providing training and technical assistance to CMP sites across the state.

### **Brad Stiles**

Brad served for eight years in the U.S. Army as a Military Policeman and Combat Tactics instructor, before transitioning to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, as a Deputy Sheriff. Brad was assigned to many duties within the Sheriff's Office to include serving as a Field Training Instructor, a Crime Scene Technician, as a member of the Honor Guard, as an Academy Instructor and as a Planning Section member with the Jefferson County Incident Management Team (Type 3). As the Emergency Response Outreach Consultant at the Colorado School Safety Resource Center, Brad has provided training to thousands on a variety of school safety topics.

### **Michelle Sylvester**

Michelle Sylvester is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with Summitstone Mental Health Partners. Michelle has numerous years of experience in not only clinical settings but various types of Co-Response as well. Currently Michelle serves as the Clinician on the Co-Response team assigned to the Thompson School District with the Larimer County Sheriff's Office.

### **Mike Vagher**

Mike Vagher, is a Colorado native who grew up in Cedar Rapids, IA. After graduating high school, he attended Buena Vista University and obtained a Bachelor's in Exercise Science. He then moved back to Colorado to teach physical education at Lake County Schools in Leadville, CO. Mike taught PE for 3 years before obtaining his Masters of Education in Educational Leadership from Adams State University. In his fifteen years of experience in education, he has been a classroom teacher, athletic coach, instructional coach, assistant principal, athletic director, administrator, principal, Title IX coordinator, director

of safety/security, chief operations officer, and superintendent. He most recently worked as the Superintendent of Cheyenne County School District where he oversaw operations and policy implementation for the district. He now serves the eastern part of the state as a Regional Training Consultant for the CSSRC.

### **Joe Vodjansky**

Joe started his career in public safety in 2010 with the Larimer County Sheriff's Office. In 2015, Joe transitioned in the Thompson School District and currently serves as the Director of Safety and Security.

### **Teresa Will**

Teresa has worked in harm reduction in Colorado for over 10 years promoting efforts to expand access to naloxone. Through the Naloxone Bulk Purchase Fund she continues to provide low barrier access through technical assistance and training to eligible agencies across the state.

### **Rachael Whitney**

Rachael Whitney is the Emergency Response and Preparedness Coordinator at 27J Schools. She obtained her BSED from Northern Arizona University, has two master's degrees: one in Political Science from Colorado State University and one in Emergency Management and Homeland Security from Arizona State University. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she worked in the Maricopa County Unified Command Center, and earlier in her career, was an educator in Arizona. She utilizes her experiences both in education and emergency management in her current position working in school safety.

## NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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## This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 28 horizontal blue or grey lines spaced evenly apart, typical of notebook paper. The lines extend across the entire width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical lines, text, or other markings on the page.