

MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT MEETING

MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL
5901 NW PINE ISLAND ROAD
PARKLAND, FL 33076

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2019
6:00 P.M. - 9:10 P.M.

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PANEL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

ROBERT W. RUNCIE, Superintendent of Schools

JEFF MOQUIN, Chief of Staff

DR. VALERIE WANZA, Chief School Performance &
Accountability Officer

DR. MARYANN MAY, Chief Facilities Officer

MICHAELLE VALBRUN-POPE, Chief Student Support &
Recovery Initiatives

LORI ALHADEFF, School Board Member - District 4

MODERATOR: CHARLES WEBSTER

1 THEREUPON,

2 (The following Parent Meeting was called to
3 order by Mr. Webster.)

4 MR. WEBSTER: Go od evening. Welcome parents
5 and thank you for joining us. I'm Charles
6 Webster, Coordinator of Governmental Affairs, and
7 I'll be serving as your moderator. We'll be
8 starting momentarily. Meanwhile, there are a
9 couple of general housekeeping -- a little
10 housekeeping information. The restrooms are
11 located outside the auditorium on either side of
12 the lobby. We have translation services
13 available this evening in Spanish for those of
14 you who would like to take advantage of this
15 service.

16 Tonight we want to listen to you. We
17 purposely planned these meetings to be small
18 enough to give everyone a chance to speak. We're
19 also not recording this meeting in order to
20 provide an environment for each of you to be able
21 to talk without distractions. We will be taking
22 notes so that the spirit of your questions and
23 our answers will be captured. We will post them
24 on our website. The speakers' names will be
25 listed on the wall to my left. The initial group

1 of speakers will be asked to sit in the reserved
2 area in Row H over on the right side of the
3 auditorium. As each speaker is heard the next
4 name will be posted. When you see your name,
5 please make your way down to the speakers' area.
6 The microphone in the aisle has been reserved for
7 the speakers, so please utilize this so that your
8 comments may be heard. Comments from the floor
9 will not be recognized this evening. Now, you're
10 going to see your name on the wall but when we
11 put the questions and the answers on the website
12 your name will not be included. Speakers will be
13 allotted two minutes each and cannot yield their
14 time to another. We have several parents who
15 signed up to speak and we're planning to wrap up
16 at 8 p.m. We'll try to accommodate as many
17 speakers as possible within that time. And to do
18 so we'll utilize the timing device located to my
19 left. It's got a green and red indicator. And
20 we'll use that to monitor time for all of our
21 speakers. Please wrap up your question or
22 comment when the red indicator lights up.

23 The speaker list is developed from the
24 speaker registration outside and it is based on
25 the order of sign in. If you did not have an

1 opportunity to be heard this evening, you may
2 e-mail your questions or comments to
3 safety@browardschools.com.

4 The Q&A from this parent meeting will be
5 posted at the District's website at
6 browardschools.com. Again, your name will not be
7 included.

8 Now, as I mentioned, tonight's meeting will
9 not be recorded so we ask that you respect
10 everyone's privacy and request that you not
11 record or photograph this evening's proceedings.

12 However, due to a recently filed lawsuit,
13 there is a court reporter present taking down the
14 questions and answers. Parents' names will not
15 be recorded.

16 Please silence your cell phones and/or any
17 other electronic devices.

18 In addition, we will be following our normal
19 meeting protocol that honors the district's eight
20 character traits, cooperation, responsibility,
21 citizenship, kindness, respect, honesty, self
22 control and tolerance.

23 Thank you.

24 I invite you now to please stand and join me
25 in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1 I'd like to recognize the elected officials
2 who are here with us this evening. We have Rich
3 Walker, Christine Hunchofsky and Bob Mayersohn
4 from the City of Parkland here tonight. Just
5 sort of wave. They're in the back.

6 Okay. Thank you for joining us. We also
7 have Broward County Commissioner Michael Udine
8 who is also here tonight. Thank you,
9 Commissioner. He's in the back also.

10 I would like to invite our speakers listed to
11 my left -- who will shortly be listed to my left,
12 to come down and take a seat in the reserved area
13 here at Row H, I believe it is.

14 While we're doing this we'll get started by
15 asking our panel to take a moment to introduce
16 themselves and we'll start with Superintendent
17 Runcie.

18 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Bob Runcie, I'm the
19 Superintendent.

20 MS. ALHADEFF: Hello, MSD Family and elected
21 officials. Thank you for coming today to have
22 the opportunity to have your questions and
23 concerns addressed. I want you to know that we
24 all deserve answers. We want changes as quickly
25 as possible to make sure our children are safe

1 when they go to school. As your School Board
2 member I'm working nonstop to make this happen.
3 If, after today, you have additional questions,
4 please e-mail me at
5 lorialhadeff@browardschools.com. Also, if you
6 would please download the SaferWatch app, if you
7 see something, say something, send something, and
8 we will do something in collaboration with our
9 law enforcement. You can report things
10 anonymously and they don't have access to your
11 information on your phone.

12 I know that we are healing together through
13 this tragedy and we want answers of why and how.
14 I do too. With patience and persistence we will
15 figure this out and strive to make our schools
16 safe for our children and that they receive a
17 high quality education. Your voice is your power
18 and together we are stronger.

19 DR. WANZA: Good evening. I'm Dr. Wanza, I'm
20 the Chief School Performance & Accountability
21 Officer.

22 MR. MOQUIN: Good evening. My name is Jeff
23 Moquin and I'm the Chief of Staff.

24 MS. POPE: Good evening. My name is Mickey
25 Pope and I'm Chief of Student Support &

1 Initiatives in Recovery.

2 DR. MAY: Hello, Dr. Mary Ann May, Chief
3 Facilities Officer Task Assigned.

4 MR. RUNCIE: Thank you all for joining us
5 here this evening. Let me first start out by,
6 you know, just saying some things on my mind.

7 First, I will tell you that there's not a day
8 that goes by that I don't wake up and think about
9 what's happened to this district. It's something
10 that we'll never forget. It will be with all of
11 us. It has had a significant impact across our
12 entire county. It certainly has had ripple
13 effects throughout the nation. Like you, all of
14 our parents, our students, our staff across this
15 county in this district have been impacted by
16 this.

17 And, you know, I understand the significant
18 level of lifetime of loss and suffering that our
19 families are going through. And we remain
20 committed to doing everything we can to help our
21 families in this community to heal.

22 Let me just first start out by talking about
23 this meeting since there has been, you know, a
24 lot of noise about why this meeting is structured
25 the way it is. And I'll just say from the very

1 beginning it has always been my intention to
2 respect the wishes and privacy of this community.
3 When we reopened the school we made it very clear
4 that we wouldn't have media on the campus. That
5 was a request of faculty, discussions we had with
6 students and families. When we had the
7 graduation ceremony I put that request out again.
8 When we started the school year we also did that
9 again. So we have been pretty consistent in
10 terms of the environment that we had here.

11 I can also tell you that I personally
12 attended over 30 meetings since February 14th
13 within this community including faculty meetings,
14 meetings with students, parent groups. We've had
15 Town Hall meetings, not directly at the school,
16 but we've had a couple on safety in this county
17 so far. So we have been -- you know, we have
18 been pretty open in terms of what we're trying to
19 do here. We're trying to create an environment
20 where I can give you an opportunity, a maximum
21 opportunity, to talk and dialogue with us as much
22 as possible.

23 You know, as a father and a superintendent
24 I'm working to do all that I can to make sure
25 that we can make our schools safer each and every

1 day, safer than what they were yesterday and the
2 day before that. That is what we've done. We
3 are doing that in an environment where I also
4 know the second part of our work is what I was
5 charged with when I came here in 2011 to Broward
6 County, and that is to improve our school system.

7 The day I showed up in Broward County we had
8 lots of issues in terms of -- we had issues with
9 class size. That was an immediate issue.
10 Broward County counted for over 70 percent of the
11 out of compliance class size in the State of
12 Florida and was facing a \$66 million fine.

13 We had issues with our finances in the
14 district. We laid off 1,400 teachers.

15 We were losing enrollment of about two to
16 3,000 a year.

17 We had almost 60 D and F schools in the
18 district.

19 I can tell you we've resolved and fixed those
20 issues.

21 Nowhere since 2011 that I've been here has
22 anyone actually come to me at either a School
23 Board meeting or I've had about seven town halls
24 every single year since I've come to Broward
25 County and there wasn't someone who said that

1 there was something broken about the security
2 apparatus in this district.

3 We certainly have learned from the tragedy on
4 February 14, but we can't look back and say,
5 well, we should have done this, we should have
6 done that.

7 Yes, based on what we know now, we are
8 working to make sure that we put in motion to
9 make our schools safer and safer each and every
10 day.

11 Since February 14th we immediately issued
12 directives out to all of our schools to use the
13 security assets that we have in place, to change
14 our security protocols, to make sure that every
15 single gate that we have in the county was locked
16 during session, when they were open, that they
17 were manned, that classroom doors would be
18 locked, that everyone would be required to wear
19 their ID, that our campuses would be monitored as
20 diligently as possible.

21 Prior to February 2018 I can tell you back in
22 the fall of 2017 our School Board asked us to
23 strip out all of the single point of entry
24 projects that weren't completed. We had a
25 schedule to complete those by 2021. They said

1 get it sooner. We put it on schedule to complete
2 in 2019 and we're on schedule to do that as
3 promised.

4 In January of 2018 we also -- the Board
5 authorized about \$5 million for us to upgrade our
6 entire camera systems around the county which we
7 did by June of 2018. We also hired an
8 independent security risk assessment firm, Safe
9 Havens, and actually the way I was introduced to
10 that firm was through one of the family members,
11 Max Schachter, who introduced them to us, we had
12 a conversation with them, invited them to go
13 through our competitive process. They're
14 probably the best in the world at what they do.
15 They have -- they have done reviews at over 7,000
16 schools around the world and have offered some
17 very good advice to the district.

18 They did some work in two phases. The first
19 phase of their work was to do a physical
20 assessment of every single school in the Marjorie
21 Stoneman Douglas zone. They then proceeded to do
22 that work at all the schools in Broward County.

23 Through their first phase of work the School
24 Board allocated over \$30 million to invest in a
25 number of what they recommended as priority

1 investments. Those were additional cameras in
2 addition to the over 10,000 cameras that we have
3 in Broward County, add another 2,500 cameras.

4 Invest in additional radios to improve
5 communications throughout our schools and put
6 repeaters throughout our school campuses to
7 ensure that our school radios work.

8 Upgrading our intercom systems, that was a
9 major part of that effort as well.

10 And then we are putting in something that
11 doesn't exist in any school system here in
12 Florida nor in the country, and that's an
13 enterprise risk management function, which
14 consolidates all of our security pieces around
15 the district, puts an expert in that role to be
16 able to ensure that we provide proper training to
17 all of our security staff across the system, that
18 we have policies and procedures that incorporate
19 the best practices that are out there.

20 We've also worked to make sure that we
21 improve collaboration with our law enforcement
22 agencies. You know, I can sit here and tell you
23 that I've had several conversations and a pretty
24 significant meeting with our new sheriff. We
25 have been able to complete an agreement to be

1 able to give BSO access, realtime access, to our
2 cameras within Broward County. As we sit here
3 and speak with you here today they have realtime
4 access to all of our cameras.

5 We've worked to make sure that we complied
6 with the Stoneman Douglas Safety Commission.
7 That's been, obviously, a big priority because
8 like everyone else we want to make sure that we
9 can understand what went wrong, what lessons can
10 be learned from that, what we need to change in
11 this district and how we need to be held
12 accountable for actions taken or not taken on
13 that day.

14 So through that process we have moved forward
15 and we implemented additional policies in this
16 district. We implemented an emergency code
17 policy. We brought that to the Board, it's going
18 through the normal process for community input.
19 Nevertheless, we have moved forward to go and
20 implement that because we're not waiting until
21 the policy is completed. And the thing I will
22 also say is that these policies, effectively what
23 we're doing is we're codifying practices that we
24 already have in the district.

25 So there's about four of these policies

1 around emergency codes, safer spaces, how do we
2 actually do threat assessments and some
3 modifications to discipline to ensure that
4 there's structure according to state law.

5 So all of those things are being done right
6 now. Most of those will be completed and going
7 through the rule -- what we call the rule
8 development process in February.

9 So at the start of this we focused on three
10 major pieces from February 14th, the first an the
11 most urgent piece which doesn't get, I believe,
12 as much as attention as it should, but it clearly
13 was the most urgent need at the time, and that is
14 addressing the wellness and emotional mental
15 health and trauma, and the impact on this
16 community.

17 We opened, through a variety of community
18 partners, five locations in Parkland, including a
19 24/7 resiliency center. We engaged national
20 experts from the National Center for School
21 Crisis & Bereavement. We also, through a
22 relationship I have with the Zuckerbergs, I was
23 able to get the Center for Mind-Body Medicine to
24 work in this district. They do work all over the
25 world, including the Middle East, basically

1 helping communities deal with tragedy and move
2 forward with self care and wellness.

3 We consulted with individuals from places
4 like Columbine, Sandy Hook, Pulse. I've
5 personally done that on a number of occasions and
6 had some good information there.

7 We continue to have a series of meetings here
8 at MSD with students, faculty and staff. We
9 continue to work to provide counseling support.
10 In fact, we've sat more than 25 additional health
11 conditions and therapists here in the Stoneman
12 Douglas zone. We've added a couple additional
13 guidance counselors here at Stoneman Douglas.
14 We've added therapy dogs. We've had many of them
15 here. Through conversations I've had with
16 students they still want them, so we make sure
17 that they still exist at this school.

18 So the mental health pieces were immediate.
19 They continue and we'll continue to support this
20 community as much as possible and the larger
21 community across Broward County with mental
22 health needs and support.

23 The second big priority area again is
24 physical safety, security. As I indicated, we
25 immediately put in protocols. I can tell you

1 here at MSD some of the immediate work we did was
2 putting in about 100 additional cameras at this
3 school. We actually implemented additional
4 fencing and created a second perimeter structure
5 around the school as well. We replaced all the
6 door locking hardware mechanisms in this campus
7 to make sure that doors were -- they were locked
8 automatically. We upgraded the intercom system
9 over the summer, made that system available with
10 some new state of the art digital features. We
11 doubled the security staff at Stoneman Douglas to
12 18 from what we had before. And through a couple
13 meetings I had with teachers from the 1200
14 building who expressed serious concerns about
15 their situation of not having any permanent
16 space, they really pressed us to do whatever we
17 can to just move the earth to make sure that we
18 could get the 36 portable classrooms put in place
19 before the start of school and we did that in
20 one-third of the time that it normally takes.
21 And two of those portables are actually used as
22 wellness centers for students as well.

23 So that's been some of the work that we have
24 been doing and continue to do. It's a
25 never-ending work for us. And, you know, it's

1 something, again, I know that's shaken my life
2 and career. And something I will certainly have
3 on the top of my mind each and every day as I get
4 up I can tell you is how we can serve this
5 community.

6 The team, the folks I have here, they
7 literally have been working day and night. They
8 won't tell you that. I know some of them have
9 literally worked themselves sick. But it's --
10 it's our job. It's our responsibility. It's
11 what we have to do. It's your expectation of us
12 as leaders in terms of what we need to do to make
13 this community as safe as possible.

14 It's my hope through the conversations today
15 that you will let us know your concerns, give us
16 some constructive ideas of where your concerns
17 still are so that we can think about other things
18 that we can do, suggestions we may bring to our
19 Board to improve safety and security, mental
20 health services and supports to this community.

21 Again, thank you for coming out today. Thank
22 you for your patience. I know it's been, you
23 know, to say -- I mean, it just -- it's just
24 undescrivable what this community has been
25 through. But I can tell you it's through

1 sometimes the worst of times that we find the
2 best that's in all of us. And when we come
3 together as a community out of tragedy we can get
4 to a better place. I believe our children
5 deserve that. I think we can deliver on that.
6 It is my hope that I can work with you to make
7 that possible.

8 Thank you very much.

9 Mr. Webster, let us begin with questions,
10 please.

11 MR. WEBSTER: We will do so. But before we
12 do I would like to acknowledge Commissioner Stacy
13 Kagan and Commissioner Ken Cutler from the City
14 of Parkland who have also joined us this evening.

15 Thank you.

16 Now, we'll ask our first parent on the
17 speakers' list to please come up, introduce
18 yourself.

19 SPEAKER: Hi, my name is ***** and I have two
20 children in the school. Mr. Runcie, on Thursday
21 there was a huge discussion about what was here
22 for our children for them to feel safer, with us
23 as parents of children to feel safer, and then
24 today there was a code red at Piper High School.

25 Instead of that student being taken away from

1 the students, that student was brought back into
2 the classroom along with the other students. So
3 that student who had a knife, who knifed somebody
4 today at Piper in Broward County was a threat to
5 other students. This was just today. And I'm
6 just wondering if that's proper procedure,
7 protocol.

8 Why wasn't he stopped before he came in with
9 a knife? He could have injured so many others.

10 So I'm just not quite sure, we're talking
11 about protection, we don't have metal detectors,
12 we don't have wands, we don't have sniffing dogs.
13 These are all of the things that were supposed to
14 be implemented.

15 Again, I was here on Thursday and you said
16 nothing. You actually looked down. And I'm
17 wondering what's changed today.

18 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So what I said on
19 Thursday about the metal detectors and we talked
20 about exploring other options; right?

21 So let me just address the first part. I'm
22 not sure about the Piper situation. I'm going to
23 ask staff to check into that now.

24 Can everyone please try to --

25 SPEAKER: And you're cutting me off.

1 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Oh, I'm sorry, ma'am.

2 SPEAKER: It's your job and when something

3 like that occurs at school someone should be

4 calling you and messaging you immediately.

5 Immediately. And you told me before that you've

6 done this to all of Broward County and not just

7 Parkland, well, it's affecting all of Broward

8 County and I don't see anything changing.

9 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So, let me -- let me

10 just say that Piper in particular, it's hard for

11 me to believe that a student that was engaged in

12 a criminal activity like that is at the school.

13 And I'll just tell you just something had

14 happened there a few years ago when we had a new

15 principal at the school.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Answer the question.

17 Answer the question.

18 MR. WEBSTER: Excuse me. We'll only have one

19 speaker at a time, please.

20 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So, ma'am, would you

21 go back. You said a lot there. What is your

22 specific question?

23 SPEAKER: My specific question is, there was

24 somebody today at Piper High School with a knife

25 and you were saying the other day it's not just

1 Parkland it was all of Broward County. Why
2 weren't you notified about this? You should
3 already have an answer. And this child was
4 brought with the knife back into the classroom
5 with other students. He could have potentially
6 done some damage to other students. There needs
7 to be -- you know, when you say, we're going to
8 speak about this, we're going to see what we can
9 do about this. I told you last time you need to
10 stop saying what you need to do and actually just
11 implement it already.

12 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So, ma'am, I am --
13 let me just say I don't think that's a fair
14 assessment. Essentially, you have identified a
15 number of things that we have actually put in
16 place. Relative to this situation, yes, I am
17 aware that there was an incident at the school
18 today and to my understanding that was handled
19 properly. So, you know, I'm not sure what
20 information it is that you have.

21 So, again, I'll get clarification. If
22 there's something different than what I was told
23 today I'll find out.

24 Dr. Wanza, what do you have?

25 DR. WANZA: So on the specific incident, once

1 the student was located, identified and searched,
2 the student was arrested and transported to the
3 juvenile assessment center, charged with
4 aggravated battery, evidence tampering, weapon on
5 campus and major school disruption.

6 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So, again, all I can
7 say is.

8 SPEAKER: I have three seconds left and I'd
9 just like to say, the student was brought back
10 into the classroom. Kids nowadays have social
11 media, so they videotape it, they Snapchat it,
12 they show it all. He was brought into the
13 classroom.

14 I don't understand why no one can ever just
15 say that they were wrong. I don't understand it.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I was there. Do you want
17 me to speak?

18 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yes, please.

19 MR. WEBSTER: Please use the microphone, sir.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name's ***** and I
21 happened to be there today. I am a Parkland
22 parent. My son's in 10th grade. He was in the
23 1200 building at the time.

24 But today's instance at Piper -- I'm a police
25 officer. I'm actually in charge of all the SROs

1 at the schools, so I can tell you what happened
2 there. I was present at the school. So what you
3 heard is not accurate.

4 Okay. So what we did today is -- we got a
5 call, you know, that there was a child with a
6 knife. So when we got there we found out that
7 basically what had happened was an individual was
8 sitting at his desk, this kid came up behind him,
9 around his neck, and he put a knife to his neck.
10 Okay? At that point the kid didn't know what it
11 was, so he said, get off me, and he pushed it
12 back and he got his finger sliced. Okay? The
13 other kid ran off in another direction. The
14 other kid went to the officer and told the
15 officer. When I got to the school about five
16 minutes later we locked the school down, put in a
17 code red. Okay? We went over there, we checked
18 the cameras. The kid had gone back into another
19 classroom but that was before the class was
20 locked down. Okay? Once we actually saw where
21 the kid went into that room, I, myself, went into
22 that room and we grabbed that kid and we put him
23 in handcuffs. Okay? So --

24 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Thank you for that
25 clarification. You know, it's a challenge. I

1 know there's a lot of information that goes
2 around. I can only function based on the facts
3 as I know them. And, you know, again, we're
4 trying to do the very best that we can in a very
5 difficult situation.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: ***** came into the school
7 that day, February 14th.

8 MR. WEBSTER: Thank you. Could we have
9 the --

10 MS. ALHADEFF: On that point though, a code
11 red was called.

12 Mr. Runcie, what is the procedure for the
13 teachers in a code red situation? Are they
14 supposed to lock the door or are they supposed to
15 go to the hallway and bring the students into the
16 classroom that are in the hallway?

17 Because I believe the student with the knife
18 was in the hallway and the teacher then brought
19 the student into their classroom.

20 Can you clarify? Is there a policy?

21 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Under a code red
22 situation, which is a lockdown, everyone should
23 be in a classroom or some secure area. That
24 is -- that's what the current protocol is. And,
25 Ms. Alhadeff, as you know, with the new policy

1 that we put in place we're trying to make it
2 explicitly clear that anyone in the school can
3 call a code red if they suspect anything. So
4 we're trying to make sure that folks have no
5 hesitancy to call a code red. If there's a
6 concern that you call it and it turns out to be
7 false, we'd rather deal with that situation than
8 someone missing it one time. So we're
9 encouraging everyone under all circumstances that
10 they actually are required to alert and/or call
11 for a code red if they see anything that may
12 create a threat to the school.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Stop sidestepping. Answer
14 the question.

15 MS. ALHADEFF: If there are students in the
16 hallway and the code red is called what are those
17 students supposed to do? What is the teacher
18 supposed to do?

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is there a policy?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: If there's not, just tell
21 us there isn't. I'm worried about my sister.

22 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: There currently isn't
23 a policy. The policy is under -- there's a draft
24 policy in place that goes through a couple
25 different issues. It's scheduled for February

1 20th or so for approval. But the procedures for
2 a code red lockdown have been in the district for
3 many years. We're just codifying what we do.

4 So if students are in the hallway they should
5 be brought into a classroom.

6 MR. WEBSTER: Can we have our next speaker,
7 please? And please introduce yourself so that we
8 can figure out where we are on the list.

9 Thank you.

10 SPEAKER: Good afternoon. My name is *****.
11 Thank you for having me here today and allowing
12 me to speak to the panel. I appreciate it.

13 Maybe if there were metal detectors the knife
14 wouldn't have got into the school.

15 I'm not going to ask you a question because I
16 just feel like all these questions we talk about
17 implementation, processes, all this nonsense.
18 You know, Mr. Runcie, if you would just answer
19 the question honestly the first time like you
20 just did you would be very well received here.

21 I'm going to talk a little bit about
22 leadership. And this is directed to Mr. Runcie;
23 okay?

24 You are the superintendent. That is a
25 tremendous, tremendous position. The

1 Superintendent of Broward Schools, I don't know
2 how many schools we have 230, 250, with all the
3 thousands of children, that is a tremendous
4 position. That is a true leadership position.
5 And I know I don't have to explain to you what
6 it's like to become a leader. One part is
7 getting things done. You run a huge operation,
8 so you have to delegate the authority. You have
9 to have a process in place to make sure that it's
10 executed on and that people are held to account.
11 That's a huge part.

12 I don't believe you did a great job in that
13 part, but where I truly feel you have failed us
14 as a community is the unity part of the
15 leadership. Because to be a great leader you
16 have to build relationships with the community.

17 So I'm going to tell you what I have been
18 doing for the last 11 and a half months, Mr.
19 Runcie. I have been hugging Fred Guttenberg and
20 Jen Guttenberg and I met Jesse. And they told me
21 a lot about Jaime and I have a watched 20 or 30
22 videos of her dancing.

23 And when I see her dance I cry and I melt
24 because she was a gorgeous, beautiful perfect
25 dancer.

1 And Manny and Patricia are unbelievable
2 beautiful people and their daughter Andrea is
3 outstanding and they told me about Guac. Do you
4 know what Guac's favorite thing is, Mr. Runcie?

5 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I'm sorry, do I know
6 what?

7 SPEAKER: Do you know what Guac's favorite
8 thing is? It's music. Do you know who his
9 favorite artist is? Frank Ocean.

10 Do you know how I know that? Because I asked
11 them. Because I care.

12 And I spent some time over the Jewish holiday
13 with Board Member Alhadeff and she took me into
14 her home and I saw a picture of Melissa and she
15 was a superb soccer player. And you know what,
16 her number was 8.

17 Luke Hoyer's favorite thing, do you know what
18 that was? Chicken nuggets and basketball.

19 And I don't swim, but when I do, I swim for
20 Nick. And when I swim for Nick I listen to the
21 Beatles. Okay?

22 And Alex played that tuba like no one played
23 before.

24 And you have failed to come into this
25 community and understand what all of these people

1 are feeling every single day. You sleep very
2 well at night and wake up and think about it
3 every day. I don't sleep too well at night. And
4 if I seem a little nervous it's because I have
5 been suffering tremendously from PTSD over the
6 year and I have been working on myself trying to
7 help the community.

8 And I think -- Mr. Runcie, I think you should
9 hear me out.

10 Ladies and gentlemen, as the Superintendent
11 of Broward Schools the most heinous, horrific act
12 took place in our backyard, and ladies and
13 gentlemen, over the next six months or a year,
14 however long it takes, I'm going to delegate the
15 management of these schools to all my people, and
16 you know what I'm going to do, I'm going to go
17 and spend it with the 17 families that lost lives
18 and the 17 that were wounded and I'm going to
19 apologize to them from the heart, okay, from the
20 heart at their kitchen table, and I'm going to
21 work with them to make sure this doesn't happen
22 again.

23 And if you would have done that, Mr. Runcie,
24 tonight you would be getting a Nobel Peace Prize
25 not a Spanish inquisition.

1 So with that being said, the only thing that
2 I, as a parent here, would accept from you is
3 your true heartfelt apologies to the epic
4 failures that took place under your watch and
5 your resignation.

6 Thank you.

7 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: All I can tell you is
8 that, you know, I'm sorry that I haven't --

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's too late.

10 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I'm sorry that I
11 haven't been able to make the connection that you
12 desire, but the first week, the first few days
13 after the tragedy I made it a point to try to go
14 to every single home of those who lost a loved
15 one.

16 MS. ALHADEFF: Not mine, Mr. Runcie.

17 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I tried to get to as
18 many homes as I could. I also went and visited
19 as many as I could in -- that were in the
20 hospitals. I went to as many funerals as I
21 could. Again, I'm sorry that I haven't been able
22 to build the kind of relationships you desire.
23 It's not because I haven't tried to do that.
24 I've tried to reach out. I also respect the fact
25 that folks have a right to be angry at what's

1 happened in this district. And, yes, it's
2 happened under our leadership and I understand
3 the pain around that. And sometimes it's hard to
4 get beyond that, but, you know, I've tried to do
5 that as much as I could.

6 You know, if I could, you know, be on your
7 back and go to everyone of those families as you
8 have done, I'd love to be able to do that. I
9 haven't been able to get past, I think, the
10 anger, the grief, the trauma around it.

11 Again, I'm sorry. I'm willing to do whatever
12 it is I can do to help.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Resign.

14 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I'm trying to do
15 whatever it is that I can and I ask for you to
16 give me a chance to work with all of you in this
17 community to do everything I can to help make the
18 school safer, address whatever issues and
19 concerns that you have. That's all I ask to do.

20 Go ahead.

21 SPEAKER: My name is *****. I am here
22 wearing three hats, one as a parent of two
23 seniors here at MSD; one, a teacher here at MSD;
24 and, one, as a trauma victim as I was shot on the
25 third floor of the freshman building on February

1 14th last year.

2 You have a laundry list of things you've done
3 for our mental health, however, there are mental
4 health problems. I am here in a classroom every
5 day and I can confirm there is much work to be
6 done. We need to equip all of our social workers
7 and counselors in the wellness center and the
8 resiliency center with proper trauma training in
9 order to better support teachers, students and
10 parents. There needs to be a way to ensure that
11 every single counselor on our campus understands
12 how to handle our population. Trauma is tricky
13 and many of us continue to struggle. Not all of
14 the social workers and counselors who are meant
15 to help me and our traumatized students are
16 properly trained. We are not fully equipped.
17 Deb Del Vecchio is a trauma specialist. She
18 spearheaded the support of the Sandy Hook
19 community and is eager to support our social
20 workers and counselors. Only several of them
21 attended sessions she led in January when she was
22 here to talk to the parents and teachers about
23 trauma. Her sessions should have been mandatory,
24 not optional. I was made aware the treatment
25 model our counselors are forced to use was

1 learned via an online class and was minimal at
2 best. These counselors have been put in an
3 impossible situation with no flexibility to use
4 other methods. We continue to have students not
5 seek help because they have realized the help is
6 subpar. And I must agree with them. When a
7 student finally wants to go get help they have
8 nowhere else to take their burden, so they come
9 to us teachers. This takes a toll on us as we
10 are far from equipped to handle this. I sought
11 counselling on my own because after multiple
12 attempts with several school district social
13 workers I became frustrated because they were not
14 addressing my trauma. In fact, many of the
15 current counselors burden their patients with
16 their own trauma stories in order to relate.
17 This is extremely harmful. As the anniversary
18 comes up the need has never been greater. Our
19 trauma did not end after our 10-week session and
20 it's not going to end on February 14th, 2019.

21 But what must end is this lack of therapy for
22 our teachers. Teachers get formally evaluated
23 throughout the year, so I strongly recommend you
24 check up on the current counselors and social
25 workers. I challenge you to make this happen.

1 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Thank you for that,
2 and you raised a good point there. What we'll do
3 is we'll go back and we'll set up mandatory
4 sessions to occur sometime later this month where
5 we make sure those sessions are around trauma
6 training for our social workers and our
7 counselors. Everyone that's here, we'll work out
8 some kind of schedule to make sure that they're
9 able to receive that and be able to better
10 deliver the services that are needed.

11 MS. POPE: Thank you for that input. What I
12 will share with you is that you are right that
13 our protocol for our social workers were not that
14 they are trauma trained, not only here in Broward
15 County but across the nation. Upon the tragedy
16 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas on February 14th, we
17 identified all of our social workers who did have
18 complete trauma training, certified, and moved
19 them from across the district to Marjory Stoneman
20 Douglas High to provide those services. And we
21 did initially provide that training that you are
22 speaking of so that we can get all the rest of
23 our folks with at least some knowledge of it to
24 be able to support. We needed to support with
25 the folks that we have. Since then, however, all

1 of our clinicians have been going through the
2 certified trauma training, getting certified with
3 the trauma informed care and have been getting
4 hours of training through this summer and are at
5 a point where they are very close to the complete
6 certification. So our people are getting more of
7 the skill that they need to better support. But
8 do know that the protocols for social workers
9 within the State of Florida did not call for that
10 level of training.

11 So thank you again and we will continue to
12 develop their skills, however, while -- while you
13 may have gotten some reports about -- some
14 negative reports, as you put it, we also have
15 received some very good reports that some folks
16 are really being served well and we are
17 continuing to get better at it.

18 SPEAKER: There is definitely a little bit of
19 both, but the problem is the ones that are not
20 properly trained, they're not looking at things
21 right, they are doing more harm right now than
22 good, so that's why I equated it to how teachers
23 get evaluated all the time, you really need to
24 check up on these professionals because they are
25 doing some harm.

1 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So we will check up
2 on the professionals. We'll start this week and
3 determine who needs training. You can't have
4 enough training in this area, so we will send
5 folks to as much training as they need, some
6 additional training this month as well. Thank
7 you for bringing that to our attention.

8 SPEAKER: Hi, my name is *****. My daughter
9 was in the 1200 building on the third floor that
10 day. Mrs. Alhadeff, thank you very much for
11 being here. I had a lot to say. I have a lot to
12 say. I really had to decide what I want to say.

13 We talk about policies. We talk about
14 countywide. We talk about districtwide. It's a
15 huge district. Times change. You talk about the
16 way policies have worked, but it's not the same
17 policies anymore. We're not in the same world
18 anymore. We had an incident. Those policies do
19 not work anymore. I was here for the last
20 program. A colleague of mine that I work with,
21 she trains, she does personal safety training,
22 rape prevention, active shooter training is one
23 of the big things that she does.

24 That Monday before I happened to mention to
25 my daughter, God forbid there's an active shooter

1 in the school, do you know -- through the window,
2 do you know to hide on a parallel wall? Well,
3 she remembered and that's why she's here today.
4 My daughter was on the ground sobbing. These
5 drills are a waste of time. These drills are
6 slowly walking into a room where there's a
7 window, here's the window, there they are prone
8 right in view. If we're going to do these
9 drills, train them right. Teach the kids to do
10 it right. Because otherwise it's a waste of
11 time. You're not teaching anybody anything.
12 You're not keeping them safe. Teach them what to
13 do if they're in the hallway. Teach them what to
14 do if they're in the bathroom. Right now we're
15 teaching them to be fish in a barrel. What do
16 they do if they're in a portable? They do
17 nothing. They wait to be shot.

18 And they can fight. There are things that
19 are available that my friend and I watched videos
20 on that are looking to be implemented in the
21 country. There's pepper spray that can shoot 35
22 feet. There's pepper grenades, okay, to
23 incapacitate the shooters who are in hiding.
24 Even if the perpetrator is wearing a gas mask,
25 the particulates will still penetrate and that's

1 it, he's done. He can't do anything else.

2 What are we looking into that these kids
3 don't have to wait their turn to be shot? What
4 are you doing? What are you investigating? What
5 are you researching? How can I help? How can I
6 put you in touch with people who know how to get
7 these things?

8 Thank you.

9 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: All right. So thank
10 you for that. You are absolutely right about
11 these trainings. One of the things that we --
12 that will change in the training style now with
13 the drills is that we are moving to more
14 scenario-based trainings. So it's not just the
15 same type of lockdown drill every time, but it's
16 actually based on a lot of different scenarios.
17 That's what is most effective. But I will ask
18 someone to get your information, if I could, so
19 if you could actually come down, just share it
20 with this lady down here and I'll get in touch
21 with you and get some of the information you
22 have. And whatever we can have or due to enhance
23 what we have we're all open to doing that. Thank
24 you.

25 SPEAKER: And if I may, we're here -- this is

1 a year. We're here a year later. We're all here
2 because we all are in agreement that nothing has
3 changed. Nothing changed.

4 I'm fighting for my kid. I'm fighting for
5 her kid. I'm fighting for all their kids. We're
6 fighting. We shouldn't be fighting. We should
7 all be on the same page.

8 I grew up in a town where the superintendent
9 was from my local town. And every school in the
10 district we were close to our superintendent. I
11 swam with his kids and I was there at his house.
12 You run so many schools, how can you possibly be
13 emotionally invested in us? You can't be.

14 It can't all be done. It needs to be
15 delegated and it needs to be done today,
16 yesterday, a year ago. Thank you.

17 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Again, I'm' sorry
18 that that's --

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: ***** from Parkland. It's
20 remotely, remotely, remotely impossible to have
21 one superintendent for 300 schools. That's got
22 to change right there. We've got to change
23 something. It's remotely impossible. That's why
24 you didn't get that e-mail. That's why you
25 didn't know about that e-mail.

1 MR. WEBSTER: Okay. We're not going to have
2 this evolve to people shouting from the audience.
3 We asked for you to use the microphone so people
4 can actually hear you. So, please.

5 And our next speaker is?

6 SPEAKER: Hello. My name is *****. Thanks
7 for coming tonight to speak with MSD parents. We
8 are clearly passionate about school safety, and
9 not just MSD, but across all schools in Broward
10 County.

11 Mr. Runcie during the interview with Local 10
12 news this past Sunday you said that Broward
13 schools implemented security protocols around the
14 schools and sent notice out to our schools to
15 ensure that all gates are locked during the
16 school day. In fact, the June 1st e-mail to
17 parents assured us that this has been protocol
18 for eight months. Principals have had eight
19 months to get it right.

20 As of today I have been notified of entry
21 gates propped open at Monarch High School even
22 after the principals were notified. And
23 perimeter gates unlocked or having no lock at all
24 at Coral Springs High School. And Pompano Beach
25 High School having classroom doors wedged open

1 with blocks of wood.

2 Incidents like these contribute to the
3 feeling of inadequacy parents feel towards your
4 performance as the superintendent.

5 My question, Mr. Runcie is this. What
6 measures have been put in place to ensure
7 principals are remaining compliant with your
8 protocol notice sent eight months ago?

9 Also, Mr. Runcie, have you been notified of
10 these security inadequacies?

11 What should the students at Monarch, Coral
12 Springs High and Pompano Beach High expect from
13 you this week to move their schools into
14 compliance with your directive?

15 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Thank you for that
16 question. That particular situation was brought
17 to my attention last week. I looked at it. I
18 believe that Ms. Alhadeff had mentioned it to us
19 as well. So I'll have Dr. Wanza walk through the
20 details of exactly what we're doing with that
21 particular school.

22 And I would say that, you know, as parents, I
23 look at you as partners in this process of making
24 our schools as safe as possible. When you see
25 these issues at schools that you don't feel are

1 being adhered to, you need to notify my office
2 and we will look into it immediately as a
3 priority matter as we did in this case.

4 DR. WANZA: Good evening again. So I'll
5 start with the first thing that you said with
6 regard to individuals propping doors and the
7 wedges and the wood. So we are working with
8 human behavior, and I'm not saying that that's an
9 excuse, but we are working with the principals so
10 that the expectations that we have of them, that
11 they too have the same level of expectations and
12 accountability with their staff members. So we
13 are working with what does that look like in
14 terms of -- and I'll just say the term, using due
15 process to follow progressive corrective
16 measures, whether it's a teacher leaving it open
17 or any other staff member.

18 With respect to the gate issues, I have not
19 heard about Coral Springs or Pompano Beach High
20 but I will check on those in the morning. In
21 fact, my office is on the campus of Pompano Beach
22 High School, so I'll go there before I even go to
23 my first meeting in the morning. But with
24 respect to the issue at Monarch High School, so
25 Monarch High School and Coral Glades High School

1 have the same -- pretty much kind of have the
2 same footprint. And so one of the things we have
3 not completed at Monarch High School is a true
4 single point of entry that will allow for that
5 gate, that front gate to be locked. Because
6 there is a security person on a cart just in
7 front of the gate. The gate is open and then
8 just beyond the gate there's someone there to
9 prevent individuals from just -- if I'm standing
10 at the gate to let you in, to prevent -- so that
11 I can have a clear direct, so you don't just run
12 straight through the campus, that you go directly
13 into the office. So what we're working at at
14 Monarch is to get that single point of entry
15 clear -- completed, I'm sorry, as soon as
16 possible so that that front gate can be locked.
17 So that when a person let's someone in the gate
18 the only option they have to go to is into the
19 front office instead of an open way into the
20 campus. But I will go back out there probably
21 tomorrow afternoon before I come to the evening
22 meeting here and walk with the cadre director and
23 the principal to see if there's something we can
24 do in the interim.

25 But I will say when individuals send things

1 to our office we investigate them and work with
2 the schools immediately. I do apologize that,
3 you know, sometimes it's going to sound very --
4 it's going to sound poor, but the issue is we are
5 working to correct some human behaviors. And
6 that's not an excuse. And that's certainly not
7 going to be anything that's acceptable. God
8 forbid if anything happens, but I'm telling you
9 that when things are reported, me, my cadre
10 directors, our assistant directors, we are either
11 on the phone with schools or we go out to schools
12 and we look and we want to help schools come up
13 with different alternatives. We're not safety
14 experts but we are trying to mitigate and do the
15 most immediate things as they are brought to our
16 attention. But I will -- as I said, my office is
17 on the campus of Pompano Beach High school, I'll
18 be there at 7:30 in the morning and then I'll go
19 back by Monarch.

20 MS. ALHADEFF: On that point, I would -- so
21 the SMART Bond started in 2014 and single point
22 of entry was in the SMART Bond. And here we are
23 five years later at Monarch High School and the
24 single point of entry is not completed.

25 I think we need to communicate to the public

1 what is our expected time at Monarch High School
2 that the single point of entry will be completed.

3 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So, Ms. Alhadeff, as
4 we close -- as we indicated, as you know, in the
5 conversations that we have had with other Board
6 Members we, you know, aren't going to go and
7 communicate out to the public specific timelines
8 on specific schools just for security.

9 What I'm telling you is that, yes, single
10 point of entry is part of our capital program and
11 the single point of entry projects were scheduled
12 all to be completed by 2021. In the fall of 2017
13 the School Board said, pull those out of major
14 school projects and do those separately and
15 expedite those as quickly as possible. So our
16 goal is to get them done a couple years ahead of
17 the schedule and they are scheduled to be
18 completed by the end of this school year.

19 We'll have -- right now we're at about 85
20 percent of the schools in Broward County are
21 completed. I believe at the end of this month we
22 will have somewhere around 40 schools remaining.
23 There's about another 10 that will be finished by
24 April 15th. And then the remainder will be
25 completed by the end of the school year. I think

1 there's one that goes into the summer because it
2 requires a large construction effort to change
3 the whole front of the school.

4 So that's the schedule that we have out there
5 and that's the schedule that we've communicated
6 out.

7 MS. ALHADEFF: With all due respect, Mr.
8 Runcie, parents know if they do or do not have
9 single point of entry.

10 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Correct.

11 MS. ALHADEFF: But I think giving a timeline
12 or expected date of completion should not be too
13 much to ask.

14 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: No, I understand
15 that, and I think that, you know, for parents
16 when we put information out there on security
17 measures in our schools it's not just parents but
18 everyone that it's delivered to. So when we give
19 some, you know, general timelines of that's where
20 we are, so we will be getting those done as
21 expeditiously as possible.

22 SPEAKER: And also, Dr. Wanza, I do have
23 pictures if you would like to see that. I'll see
24 you before. Thank you.

25 MR. WEBSTER: Our next speaker?

1 SPEAKER: My name is *****.

2 From your opening remarks with regard to the
3 type of meeting that we are having here today, I
4 just want to make it clear that it was
5 approximately a month ago before the Christmas
6 holidays that I was at a staff meeting. I was
7 one of the parents that demanded that we have a
8 meeting where perhaps you and your colleagues
9 would address the parents in this community since
10 you've never done that since February 14th of
11 last year. We didn't want it to be a private
12 meeting. We wanted it to be an open meeting, a
13 meeting where we could be with all grade levels
14 so I could hear the comments of all the parents
15 that are in our community. Also so that it
16 wouldn't be repetitive, but just have the
17 collective wisdom of everybody that's going
18 through this. You did not provide us with that.
19 You also did not provide us with a meeting where
20 we would have all School Board members present,
21 so that not only Ms. Alhadeff could address the
22 concerns that we're talking about, not that they
23 would have to be addressed by the entire School
24 Board, but the School Board themselves could all
25 hear the concerns that everybody is talking

1 about. We didn't ask for the meeting to be
2 private. So I'm offended by the fact that you
3 didn't adhere to the request that we had. And
4 I'm also offended about the fact that we had to
5 ask for the meeting to begin with.

6 It seems to me that, as Mr. ***** said
7 earlier, leadership, a true leader would have had
8 a meeting right away, not just one meeting, but a
9 meeting after the event, a meeting before the
10 summer, a meeting during the summer, a meeting
11 just before we got back to school.

12 I literally waited all summer and I think
13 everybody here went through the same thing,
14 because I know a lot of the parents in this
15 community are all going through the same thing
16 and have children in the same symptomatology of
17 just trying to get through the marathon of
18 February 14th to June 4th or whatever the last
19 day of school was.

20 It was an enormous undertaking to get our
21 students and our faculty to the end of that
22 marathon. We all probably spent the summer
23 trying to recover in some way, dealing with the
24 grief of our own children and their losses
25 because everybody is connected to everybody that

1 was either injured or killed at this school.

2 Getting into the school year I actually
3 contacted one of the School Board members that
4 I'm friendly with, not our School Board member
5 that was here at the time because that would have
6 been useless, and I said -- thank you, Ms.
7 Alhadeff, for your service.

8 And I asked her what was the school doing to
9 prepare the parents, the students and the faculty
10 to return to school beside telling us when to
11 pick up our schedules? She didn't have an answer
12 but thought it was a very good question. And I
13 could not believe that two weeks prior to school
14 opening there was no e-mail from the district,
15 from yourself, explaining to us what these
16 children and this faculty were to expect when
17 they returned to a campus, to the scene of the
18 trauma with a building sitting out there that
19 presented no good memories. No answer.

20 I think it was within two weeks of that
21 school year, and I know personally for my child
22 but also for fellow friends of mine as parents of
23 children and also from faculty and after speaking
24 to many guidance counselors at the school here
25 that they all started to regress and children

1 declined in their grades and children were not
2 focused on school. It took less than maybe two
3 weeks for that to happen. And for my child
4 probably anger in the grief stage consumed him,
5 so that I had to reach out to a trauma therapist
6 because nobody told me that that's what I should
7 have been doing probably back on February 14th or
8 right after. I had to learn about that. Now, I
9 will be informed because I do work in a
10 profession where I come in contact with trauma
11 therapy, but never thought that's what he really
12 needed.

13 And I want to speak to what our teacher said
14 earlier, she's exactly on point. This is about
15 PTSD and trauma informed therapy. And we are
16 completely uninformed when it comes to that as a
17 community. And I've made it my personal interest
18 to try to reach out to as many parents I know
19 about their children and themselves in receiving
20 trauma therapy.

21 Trauma therapy is a specific form of therapy
22 for this type of event. The fact that you set up
23 wellness centers and grief counselors and you
24 have counselors on-site is not helpful. My child
25 barely looks at me at the age of 16 years old

1 when you ask him a question. He's not going to
2 march himself into a counselor's office. And as
3 a parent who's not completely informed about what
4 it takes to go through PTSD therapy, it was
5 incumbent upon the district to have set up a
6 meeting to -- a meeting to really inform the
7 parents of this is what I want you to do for your
8 child, for your spouse, for your teacher, for
9 whomever. Chrysalis Center is available. The
10 trauma therapists are there and they're trained.
11 And the teacher was exactly right, if you're not
12 trained in trauma therapy it's useless time. And
13 that's why nobody is showing up to those centers.
14 Or, if they are, they're getting nothing out of
15 it.

16 I cannot believe that you didn't inform us --
17 I know that you've had Sandy Hook out here, you
18 spoke about Columbine. I know you've had
19 organizations out here for the folks, for the
20 faculty and administration who can tell you what
21 to expect after an event like this occurs and
22 nobody spoke to us as parents.

23 You didn't even have -- you never set up one
24 panel discussion about that. You should have had
25 every student evaluated in some way for PTSD and

1 you didn't. Instead of a public relations
2 campaign that failed you. You're out \$240,000.
3 You should have saved that money for PTSD and
4 everybody here is entitled to it no matter where
5 you were on that campus or even if you weren't on
6 that campus that day and you were a student of
7 this school.

8 The other thing I just want to add is, I know
9 this might be a little bit unpopular, because I'm
10 not a parent who wants to see our schools turn
11 into detention centers. I actually visit
12 detention centers as part of my job and it's not
13 a welcoming sight. But I do believe that the
14 climate that you've created under your
15 leadership, and it's not just you that might need
16 to resign, it's also some of your administration,
17 I believe the climate that you have created in
18 Broward County has allowed our educators and your
19 administration to look the other way too many
20 times with students who are in general education
21 schools. And when I say that I mean it's because
22 you can lock these schools all you want but in
23 the instance of the shooter in this case, you
24 locked him inside buildings that he's already
25 among the population. And because of the climate

1 that you've created throughout this community,
2 meaning the entire district, you overlook
3 students who might be in need in other ways who
4 do not belong in a general education population
5 and should have never been at this school. And
6 that's my concern when it comes to security in
7 your schools.

8 Thank you.

9 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Ms. Pope, would you
10 like to talk about the notices that we put out to
11 parents and families over the past year?

12 MS. POPE: All of our social workers, our
13 family therapists and all of our clinicians that
14 are in the schools have worked with their school
15 PTA with their school leaders in getting
16 information out. We have sent out letters to all
17 of the schools with all of the available
18 services, not only within the district, but
19 within the larger community as well. We sit on
20 several committees with our behavior health
21 partners to coordinate services. I think that,
22 you know, we make an attempt continuously to
23 inform our community and to inform our parents
24 and we continue to hear that that information is
25 not getting out there and we need to do better

1 and we need to reach out differently. I
2 understand that a parent meeting of this sort may
3 have been a great way to provide you that
4 information. In fact, today I -- I'm asking for
5 a slide to put up at these meetings and we do
6 have some information for you. Megan, if you can
7 pull up that slide?

8 One of the places that we share a lot of our
9 information about mental health is at the Broward
10 County Public Schools Mental Health portal where
11 you will find not only the services that are
12 internal but also external.

13 Go back a bit.

14 I also want you to know that this evening we
15 do have some staff here. We have our supervisor
16 of family therapy as well as our supervisor of
17 social work services. If you can raise your
18 hand, Susan and Marissa?

19 So if you have some specific questions about
20 your child that you don't necessarily want to --
21 if you want to share in private or ask in
22 private, they are here to support you. Also, our
23 Director of School Counseling, Ralph Aiello, is
24 here over there.

25 Again, we have made many attempts including

1 using our Broward County Public School site to
2 provide that information. And all of our
3 different positions who are at the schools to
4 provide that information at school, and we will
5 continue to provide you information in every form
6 and every asset that we can.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You need to reach out to
8 community leaders and have them get the
9 information out because there's a disconnect.

10 MS. POPE: Thank you for that. In fact last
11 month I did speak with the Parkland EAB where I
12 also provided the same information to them and
13 they shared that same information, that they
14 would pass it on to our community leaders so that
15 it can get out in the community.

16 Thank you.

17 SPEAKER: Good evening, Mr. Runcie. My name
18 is *****. I'm a 10-year resident here in
19 Parkland. I've served on your Parent/Community
20 Involvement Task Force here in Broward County a
21 couple years back. I'm former Chairman of the
22 Department of Education Advisory Board. But more
23 important than all of that, I'm a father of two
24 boys who were here a year ago on this campus on
25 that day.

1 And I appreciate you coming here to meet us
2 in our community here and talk to us face to
3 face. And think what you're seeing and hearing
4 tonight for sure is that this is a community that
5 you may not know that about us, but we are a very
6 tight-knit community. We love our city and we
7 love each other here.

8 But what you're also seeing tonight is that
9 there is a hole in our hearts. In fact there are
10 17 holes in our hearts. And those hearts --
11 those holes have not been filled in the past
12 year, and, frankly, they never will be. But I
13 imagine that in the nervous days prior to your
14 coming here to speak to us tonight you no doubt
15 ask yourself in the dark of night and waking up
16 in the morning, what on earth can I possibly say
17 or do to help give the people of this community
18 some small measure of comfort, some small measure
19 of peace, some small measure of hope?

20 I don't know if you found the answer to that
21 because it's very hard. I came here tonight
22 because I think I have a sense at least as a dad
23 of what I need to hear tonight and what I think
24 everyone in this room needs to hear tonight in
25 order for us to move forward as a community after

1 what we experienced a year ago.

2 And, sir, I would posture to you that it's
3 really not that difficult. It's not complicated.
4 We don't necessarily want or need an apology.
5 That time has come and gone and you've made it
6 here tonight and fine. We don't need additional
7 words or expressions of sympathy, but don't get
8 me wrong, we are grateful for that, we appreciate
9 that deeply in our hearts. We don't need further
10 talks about what actions are going to be taken.
11 We've already seen the track record of promises
12 and programs and the PROMISE program for that
13 matter.

14 What we really need here tonight more than
15 anything else that will give us at long last some
16 small sense of comfort, some small sense of
17 peace, and some small sense of hope are three
18 very simple words. I resign immediately.

19 I don't doubt for one minute that you care.
20 I don't doubt for one minute that you wake up
21 some mornings weeping like all of us do. But
22 what I want you to come away from tonight
23 understanding, and I'm speaking now on behalf of
24 my sons not just me as a dad, but sir, regardless
25 of your skills and qualifications, regardless of

1 where you came from, regardless of what you've
2 done, for us in this community you are the face
3 of failure. You and your administration have
4 failed before, during and after that horrible
5 day. The failures were abject, they were
6 thorough, they were epic, they are irredeemable.

7 Whatever your qualifications, whatever you
8 think about what you bring to this district going
9 forward, the simple fact of the matter is this.
10 You are the wrong person at the wrong time in the
11 wrong place. And tonight I came here to implore
12 you with deep respect for who you are and the
13 dedication you've made to education over your
14 life, but I come here tonight to implore you,
15 please, dig down deep, summon your courage,
16 summon your dignity, summon what you and everyone
17 in this room knows needs to happen next. Give
18 us, please, give us a small measure of comfort.
19 Please give us just a small measure of peace.
20 Please give us a small measure of hope.

21 Resign, right here, right now, tonight.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. WEBSTER: Our next speaker.

24 SPEAKER: My name is *****. I'm here because
25 my beautiful granddaughter, *****, a 10th grader

1 was here on that day. Thankfully, she was not in
2 the building, she was in another building.
3 However, she did attend nine funerals and goes to
4 therapy every Monday night.

5 I'm also here as an educator of this
6 district. I've lived here for over 30 years. I
7 have been an educator in Broward County for over
8 30 years and I love this district. However, I've
9 seen the evolution and I don't like what I see.

10 So there's some things I need to say and ask
11 and I hope you will listen.

12 Today I also saw the headline that read,
13 student with knife cuts classmate at Piper High.
14 This could have been a gun. What are you doing
15 to prevent guns and knives from being brought
16 into schools? How many students need to be
17 murdered and seriously hurt before you find
18 sensible and effective ways to protect our
19 children? There are school districts throughout
20 this country, businesses, theaters and sporting
21 events that utilize metal detectors to protect
22 their people. But you and your supporting School
23 Board members have decided that metal detectors
24 are not an effective tool to keep our children
25 safe.

1 Why have we not installed bulletproof glass
2 in classroom doors in all schools?

3 These are the common sense safety measures
4 that will provide another layer of protection for
5 our children.

6 Why does it take you and the School Board
7 members such a long time to put sensible and
8 effective directives in place for the safety of
9 our children?

10 Do we need to lose more children and
11 teachers?

12 What will it take?

13 One last comment. In 2006 the Broward County
14 School Board had the courage to fire an
15 ineffective superintendent. Perhaps history
16 needs to be repeated before Governor DeSantis
17 takes the matter into his own hands. You make
18 the decision.

19 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Ma'am, thank you for
20 that. I know there's been a lot of discussion
21 around metal detectors. I will tell you that
22 introducing metal detectors probably creates more
23 risk than they solve. Some -- some -- so we
24 think about -- so we think about the -- the
25 possibilities of what can happen in lines of kids

1 in the morning lined up to go through metal
2 detectors. You know, we can have a dozen of
3 them, we're still going to have lines out there.
4 That is not going to be a safe situation with an
5 assailant coming on campus.

6 So, again, there's a series of solutions that
7 need to be put in place. It's not one single
8 thing. Metal detectors are not a foolproof
9 solution. They have high failure rates. And
10 when you consider the possible risk that they
11 impose, you know, it's not a worthy investment,
12 we believe, at this time.

13 What I said during the last meeting, we will
14 go back and explore some other options that we
15 can use that may serve as a deterrent and we'll
16 get back to this community. So we will come up
17 with some solution to discuss that with the
18 School Board.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is there one at the School
20 Board building where you go to work?

21 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: No, there isn't.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So what do you suggest
23 instead of metal detectors?

24 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So one of the ideas
25 is to maybe actually create a crew of folks where

1 we have metal detectors, and maybe we can do some
2 random things at schools. That would be an idea,
3 right, where we could deploy them on different
4 schools on a daily basis along with other --
5 other protective activities. So, I mean, that
6 would be -- that would be one thing we could do.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Why hasn't it been done
8 then?

9 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Again, that's
10 something --

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Its' been 12 months. Why
12 hasn't it been done?

13 MR. WEBSTER: Okay. Wait. We are going to
14 speak using the microphone, number one.

15 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So I'll tell you,
16 one, I don't think any of us are necessarily
17 security experts. That's why we hired a security
18 expert. And I, as a leader, am going to listen
19 to what the experts tell us and the information
20 that they show us. Folks who have a database and
21 have looked at every single school shooting or
22 assault that has occurred in the United States
23 since the mid-1700s, I think that level of
24 intelligence and knowledge is what we need to
25 rely on. That's what we're relying on when we

1 prioritize what we can do. We can't do
2 everything.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, you can do something.
4 You haven't done nothing.

5 MS. ALHADEFF: On that point, Mr. Runcie --

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're dancing around.

7 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I'm not dancing
8 around.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, you are.

10 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: We've done a number
11 of things whether you want to acknowledge it or
12 not. And I get it, it's never going to be
13 enough. But I would submit to you that there is
14 a lot that we have done.

15 MS. ALHADEFF: On that point, Mr. Runcie, at
16 the School Board when you have to go into the
17 School Board room, is there a metal detector
18 wand?

19 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I believe they wand
20 the meeting, but generally there's no metal
21 detectors.

22 So those wands are there on specific days
23 that there are School Board meetings but there
24 aren't any metal detectors generally to come into
25 the School Board building on any given date for

1 any business.

2 MR. WEBSTER: We are going to utilize the
3 microphone, please.

4 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I think he's saying
5 to try these things out, so I'm willing to go
6 back and figure out how we can do that at this
7 school.

8 MS. ALHADEFF: Thank you, Mr. Runcie. I
9 appreciate you saying that. I actually sent you
10 an e-mail today. Ballistics Scan, it's a metal
11 detector where it will allow large amounts of
12 students to get through and they are willing to
13 donate a metal detector free of charge.

14 And in my e-mail to you, Mr. Runcie, I asked
15 that the School Board listen to Ballistics Scan,
16 a presentation from them, and consider putting
17 these types of metal detectors in our schools.
18 We can use them randomly into schools, but it's
19 layers and layers of protection.

20 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: All right. So Ms.
21 Alhadeff, I will make sure we bring the
22 conversation to the Board at our next security
23 session. I think that should be tomorrow. So we
24 will actually bring that -- some conversation
25 around metal detectors and put some options on

1 the table to figure out what we can do
2 immediately here at Stoneman Douglas High. I get
3 that we have a large county to deal with, but
4 there is a special situation here at Stoneman
5 Douglas that needs to be addressed in terms of
6 additional security measures that this community
7 desires to have in place. And, yes, we have a
8 responsibility to respond to that.

9 SPEAKER: Thank you. My name is ***** and my
10 son was a freshman last year in the freshman
11 building. My question ties in with what I have
12 heard from several others. One of the parents
13 earlier had mentioned about PTSD and it being
14 diagnosed and, you know, that's what we're
15 dealing with so you don't know what's going to
16 trigger it or what's going to happen.

17 So I have the question, you have a wellness
18 center that doesn't really help him in the sense
19 that, he's going to therapy outside of here and
20 we're seeing several doctors, but he doesn't want
21 to be targeted. He thinks -- you know,
22 15-year-olds think everybody's looking at them so
23 they're not going to a wellness center. So my
24 concern for him and all of the other students is
25 primarily how many drills go on. And in the

1 beginning of the year we were subject to so many
2 and there were setbacks. Every time we made
3 progress there were setbacks.

4 And my question, I wrote to the doctor, I
5 wrote to everyone, they run under the statutes.
6 The answers that I was told is, well, this is
7 statute, we have to have them. I understand.
8 But the statutes, you're the ones that made them,
9 you're the ones that are going to have to make
10 the adjustments for the next three years. These
11 children are walking out, they are breaking down,
12 they are so frazzled and thin right now with
13 what's going on. And every day they come home,
14 we're getting text messages. Am I the only
15 parent that's getting, I can't handle this? It's
16 very, very frustrating.

17 So I'd like to see what you would be able to
18 do with the frequency of these drills. I'm not
19 saying, don't have them, but I'm saying, can you
20 adjust them for the next three years in some form
21 so that they have the drills, the children know
22 what they need to do in the event of an
23 emergency, but just do it in a different way.
24 Sirens are triggers. Bells are triggers. I'd
25 like to know on that.

1 And I'd also like to know, you're talking
2 about your plan, you know, we're looking into
3 this, we're looking into this. Well -- but the
4 kids fall through the cracks. What exactly --
5 how are you restructuring that so we don't have
6 those mental or behavioral health issues of
7 students that get tossed around. What are you
8 doing with them? What are you doing to help
9 them?

10 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Thank you. Thank you
11 for your questions.

12 You know, as far as -- as far as the alarms,
13 the drills that we do, those are not set by the
14 district. Those are set by federal and statute.
15 So we have asked in this legislative session to
16 get some relief on the number of drills.

17 We've also determined through Chief May that
18 there are some things that we can do over the
19 next few months, the remainder of the school
20 year, to be able to reduce those drills.

21 So if I can just ask Chief May to elaborate
22 on that?

23 MS. MAY: So I can tell you, we're already
24 working with the state fire marshal's office and
25 DOE to try to change what is in the statute with

1 the fire drills. And our code red drills follows
2 along with the fire drills for the number of
3 frequency.

4 So we do recognize that maybe we don't need
5 quite so many fire drills at the high school
6 level, that, you know, by the time we put through
7 K through 8 they pretty much now know how to get
8 out the building, and we wanted to look at some
9 other options for fire safety education for the
10 high school level.

11 Now, I don't know how much we're going to be
12 able to reduce those, but we are in conversations
13 with the state asking if we can't get that put
14 through the legislature.

15 SPEAKER: May I also ask that if you have
16 students that are in any of the classrooms that
17 are near that building, once they are outside,
18 don't walk them past that building. Let them go
19 another 20 yards, let them go to another
20 location, because that has just been very
21 traumatic for them.

22 DR. WANZA: Ma'am, I'll work with the
23 school's administration to look at their routes,
24 their evacuation routes.

25 SPEAKER: I'm sorry, can you repeat that?

1 DR. WANZA: So I was responding to your last
2 question about the routes that they're taking
3 when they evacuate. So I will work with the
4 school's administration to review their routes
5 with that feedback in mind.

6 SPEAKER: Oh, perfect. Can I touch base with
7 you in about a month to make sure what was done
8 and adjusted?

9 DR. WANZA: Sure. My name is Valerie Wanza.

10 SPEAKER: Thank you.

11 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: And the second part
12 of your question, the public piece, so, one, I
13 will tell you that as far as threat assessments
14 are concerned, you know, what we learned is that
15 we have pretty good threat assessment protocols
16 in this district, they're just not consistently
17 followed as they should.

18 So what we have put in place now is that all
19 threat assessments are to be viewed and signed
20 off by principals. They will then have a
21 secondary review by the principal's supervisor,
22 the cadre director, to ensure we are doing annual
23 audits on discipline, on practices, on the
24 records in all of our schools on an annual basis.
25 So those things have been implemented already.

1 SPEAKER: Manual audits are very good but can
2 you also, like, if you just do an unannounced
3 audit and see what's going on? Sometimes the
4 element of surprise brings up other things.

5 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yes, I understand
6 what you're saying, ma'am.

7 SPEAKER: Thank you.

8 MR. WEBSTER: And I would just like to remind
9 everyone if we could, out of respect for the
10 people who signed up to speak, if you could
11 please adhere to the clock we would appreciate
12 it.

13 SPEAKER: I hope this is a quick answer.

14 Mr. Runcie, you said just a few minutes ago
15 you would do whatever it takes to address the
16 issues we face here at Stoneman Douglas.

17 My question is, why do you continue to
18 undermine Lori Alhadeff in everything that she
19 has tried to do? Please recall that her
20 daughter, Melissa, died about 100 yards away from
21 where we stand today and she has done nothing but
22 try to help our own children that have survived
23 become safe.

24 You've refused to let her hire her own
25 secretary after she spent over two and a half

1 months. Even though her candidate has a PhD and
2 an MBA. Her candidate actually meets the minimal
3 requirements of your own job. Two other current
4 School Board secretaries also don't meet the
5 two-year secretarial training experience you
6 referenced when you tried to block her request.

7 So please don't patronize us with claims of
8 needing consistency.

9 You cancelled the first meeting a few days
10 ago because a couple of protesters were outside.

11 Now you're making Ms. Alhadeff attend four
12 separate meetings without any assistance because
13 you're blocking her request for a well
14 overqualified secretary.

15 My ask from you tonight is right now while
16 we're standing here will you commit to support
17 Nathalie Lynch-Walsh as her secretary and move to
18 have that approved by the Board immediately?

19 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: One, I cannot commit
20 to that because that is a violation of the
21 policies that we have. Positions that are --
22 that we have in the School Board for jobs, they
23 are actually considered policy set by the School
24 Board. So I, again, I can't submit an item that
25 is in direct violation of policy and that's what

1 I have communicated. I'm not trying to undermine
2 anyone. I'm trying to follow the policies that
3 we have set in place. I'm sure you know -- so
4 that's -- I'll leave it there.

5 SPEAKER: How about making an accommodation
6 to the policy? Because we also have gates that
7 are supposed to be locked every day and that's
8 not happening effectually. You're the executive
9 of this group.

10 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yeah, but I don't set
11 the policy.

12 SPEAKER: I believe Ms. Alhadeff has or is
13 planning to move to change the job requirements
14 so that it fits the criteria for Ms. Walsh to be
15 her secretary. And I would ask that when that
16 happens that you please approve those
17 modifications.

18 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Well, she has a right
19 to ask the Board to go change the policy.

20 SPEAKER: Can you support it? Is there any
21 reason why you would not support it?

22 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: No, that is it. The
23 person can't meet the minimum requirements for
24 the job.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You don't meet the

1 requirements.

2 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: That's correct. I
3 wouldn't meet the requirements for that either.

4 SPEAKER: So all the failures and the
5 exceptions you've been making for the failures
6 including just today's activities with security
7 protocol mishaps, you're fine with not providing
8 any type of repercussions for those people that
9 are supposed to be following through the security
10 measures, but a simple request for a secretary
11 two and a half months later, you, as the
12 executive, will not use your own power to have --
13 and you said, by the way, do whatever it takes to
14 address these issues that we have, you fail to
15 acknowledge that and to make that approval. Is
16 that what you're saying? I just want to make
17 sure.

18 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I will tell you that
19 I will do everything that's within the policies
20 and the law that governs the work that we do. So
21 there's --

22 SPEAKER: So that's a no?

23 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: No, there is a
24 process to do that. The process is that the
25 Board will have to agree to go change a job

1 description which would be a policy that's within
2 the purview of the Board. I don't set it.

3 MS. ALHADEFF: On that point, Mr. Runcie, I
4 did submit to have the job description changed
5 and have not heard anything back.

6 SPEAKER: So, Mr. Runcie, can you commit to
7 reviewing that policy and bringing that request
8 to the next Board Meeting?

9 It's a simple yes or no.

10 If you have to have a discussion like that,
11 it is very reasonable.

12 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: It is reasonable, so
13 I will work with Ms. Alhadeff and we'll work out
14 how she can actually bring that to the Board to
15 hear an exception to the Board.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Just do the opposite of
17 whatever your lawyers tell you to do.

18 SPEAKER: And can I ask the Board to please
19 -- Ms. Alhadeff, please let us know if you have
20 any issues with this.

21 MR. WEBSTER: Can we have our next speaker,
22 please?

23 SPEAKER: Mr. Runcie, I'm *****. My son,
24 ***** , was present that awful day. I was present
25 at a meeting at Plantation High School last year

1 where vendor after vendor had reported to this
2 board prior to that awful day last year the
3 inadequacies of all the security systems,
4 children were reporting being afraid of students
5 who were threatening them and being unable to do
6 anything about it.

7 In light of the commission report, how can
8 you not take some responsibility in what occurred
9 and do the honorable thing, as a father, and help
10 these grieving parents heal by resigning?

11 In your opening comments you spoke about
12 accountability.

13 Why can't you hold yourself accountable ?

14 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I mean, I gave you my
15 statement to that. Thank you for that.

16 SPEAKER: Good evening. My name is *****. I
17 want to say thank you for the opportunity to
18 allow us parents to be here tonight. My
19 daughter, *****, was a freshman last year and I
20 have a son who graduated two years ago and I have
21 a child who will be coming into school here next
22 year.

23 Just like Mr. ***** and all the parents that
24 spoke here today, we are a tight-knit community.
25 We love our city. And we need some peace. No

1 more chaos. Enough.

2 Our children need to be safe at school. I
3 hear what you're saying about metal detectors and
4 we'll go there later.

5 I just want to know, what have you done to
6 make sure that there aren't people bringing a
7 weapon into school on our campuses?

8 It's still about School Board policy. How?
9 17 dead. 17 injured.

10 I want you to think about this, too, the
11 locks on the doors. Some locks still only lock
12 with a key. If the teacher forgets to lock the
13 door on the way in and we have an emergency and
14 we have a situation with an active shooter,
15 teachers can't go out in the hall to lock the
16 door. We still don't have flip switches or
17 buttons to lock some doors from the inside of the
18 classroom.

19 Who do we stand by, untrained custodians;
20 teachers; office personnel? Unprotected people
21 pretty much; right?

22 You just said in your own words that we're
23 not security experts, right, the School Board is
24 not, the teachers, the custodians, but yet we're
25 relying on them to be the gatekeepers. How do

1 they know who they're letting in?

2 I want to go down to piggyback off of the
3 trauma training. We're lacking completely,
4 honestly, lacking. Down to the teachers, the
5 people that work firsthand with our students,
6 these people are the ones that our children
7 trust. Why don't we train them? Why don't we
8 get some therapy that is therapy specifically
9 trained in this trauma? Why don't we do some PLC
10 trauma training?

11 I don't have anything more but I'm going to
12 go on and let the next person speak.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. WEBSTER: Our next speaker, please?

15 SPEAKER: I'm *****. I have a daughter who
16 is a freshman.

17 So, first, you asked to give you time to do
18 what you need to do. The answer is, no.

19 So, Mr. Runcie, you are superintendent. So
20 you are the ultimate decision maker for the
21 Broward County School System; correct?

22 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I don't make
23 decisions in a vacuum, I work for the School
24 Board.

25 SPEAKER: But you're --

1 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I make day-to-day
2 decisions; yes.

3 SPEAKER: So you've heard the term, the buck
4 stops?

5 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yeah, I think
6 everybody's heard that.

7 SPEAKER: Okay. So what responsibility
8 accountability have you shown?

9 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I've taken
10 responsibility by responding to this situation.

11 SPEAKER: By being on the news?

12 What accountability have you shown? What
13 have you done, personally, for 17 people who died
14 to show responsibility? That's what we're asking
15 here. We want you to resign because that's your
16 responsibility. That shows you understand that
17 17 people obviously weren't enough for you to
18 realize that you're not a good leader.

19 Leaders aren't somebody who lead. Leaders
20 are followers; right?

21 So you have Mr. ***** over here who after the
22 commission came back and said, listen, you didn't
23 go off the threat assessment. So the principal
24 under your command -- and you have the right -- I
25 checked it, you could suspend him, nothing was

1 done for that; right? But the buck stops at your
2 desk; right?

3 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yes.

4 SPEAKER: Okay. So you talked about all
5 these safety measures that could happen and you
6 mentioned one, hey, we're thinking about doing.
7 Why didn't you do it? Just one of them, just one
8 of the many that you said. Because I know
9 somebody that works with one of the companies
10 that you guys contract with and they sent in 47
11 different suggestions. Not one of them has even
12 been, hey, let's look at a presentation on what
13 they have to work with? Why not?

14 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: We have implemented
15 security measures here and throughout Broward
16 County school since then.

17 SPEAKER: By sending an announcement right
18 before school that we're going to get metal
19 detectors here and then all of a sudden they
20 weren't here?

21 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: No.

22 SPEAKER: Well, that's what happened.

23 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: No, the amount of
24 security staff that you actually have at the
25 school.

1 SPEAKER: The people that had hid themselves
2 in a closet; those guys? That's fine.

3 Portables. You -- oh, we got portables. You
4 moved -- your words, we moved heaven and earth to
5 get portables here before school started. My
6 daughter was in a portable for a code red drill,
7 do you know what her drill was, because she sat
8 in front of the window? Do you know what it is?
9 What is she supposed to do?

10 That's a question. Do you know what she's
11 supposed to do?

12 She's supposed to lay down on the ground in
13 front of the window. How is that policy?

14 Because first you said, oh, we don't have a
15 policy, it's going through review. And then you
16 said we have a policy. So which is it? Do you
17 have a policy or do you not have a policy for
18 code red?

19 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: We have a policy that
20 has been presented to the Board. It's going
21 through the process. We have -- we have been
22 implementing code red drills. Again it's
23 codifying what we already do in the district.
24 So, yes, there is a draft policy that the Board
25 has discussed twice in public forums. State law

1 requires us to go and do that. And it will be in
2 front of the Board for final formal adoption at
3 the end of this month.

4 SPEAKER: So you don't have a policy; you
5 have a proposed policy?

6 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yes, we have a
7 proposed policy that we submitted to the Board.

8 SPEAKER: Okay. Do you have a policy to cite
9 to today for code red? Yes or no.

10 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: No, we don't have an
11 actual policy, but that's a management technical
12 piece.

13 SPEAKER: You said that Ms. Alhadeff couldn't
14 hire who she wanted because of policy; right? So
15 now we have a code red that you said you had a
16 policy, but it's not really a policy it's just
17 something you've been doing.

18 What we need to happen here is you need to
19 take responsibility and you need to resign.

20 MR. WEBSTER: Our next speaker, please.

21 DR. MAY: Before we get into the next
22 speaker, you know, we're talking about all of the
23 safety and security things that we have worked
24 on. And the biggest thing that Mr. Runcie did
25 was to hire an expert in the safety and security.

1 And we have looked at a lot of the
2 recommendations. We have also looked at a lot of
3 recommendations from other companies and other
4 people who want to help do this work in the
5 district. My division alone has reviewed
6 probably 50 or more suggestions. And we have to
7 look at it through the eyes of code as well, the
8 building code and the fire code. So there's a
9 whole work -- a whole lot of work that goes on
10 behind the scenes before we can just throw
11 something into a school.

12 SPEAKER: I will respond to that because I
13 actually went to the state -- all our codes, I
14 went to Parkland, Parkland has codes and it goes
15 to the county and the county has codes and codes
16 go to the state.

17 I said is there a way to take a security
18 measure for school, for anything, actually for
19 home, I can actually apply for something that
20 goes against code and make it -- make an
21 exception for that.

22 Why didn't you guys do that? You haven't.
23 I've checked it. You haven't. So why not? If
24 there's 50 plus security measures that you looked
25 at, haven't gone against code or go against code

1 or there's no code for it, because I understand
2 there are some things that have been asked for
3 that there's no code directly, why haven't you
4 gone for an exception?

5 DR. MAY: There is a code making process that
6 cycles through every three years.

7 SPEAKER: Right. There is a process. If you
8 want I can help you do your job if you need it,
9 but that's what it comes to. People on your
10 staff, Runcie, don't know how to do their job and
11 it's upsetting and I have two other kids that
12 want to come to this school and I may move. I
13 may move because of you, because of your failure;
14 okay.

15 MR. WEBSTER: Can we have the next speaker,
16 please?

17 SPEAKER: I just want to ask you a question
18 because we were just talking about security, and
19 I know that I was in an SOS meeting right after
20 the tragedy and I saw a whole security system
21 donated to our school, not just a security
22 system, but it was going to be installed for free
23 and it was turned down by the Board. I'm just
24 asking about that.

25 Do you know about that when we went through

1 all the different security systems and it was
2 supposed to be the best security system and they
3 came to us at the meeting, they said they would
4 donate it to the school, to Douglas, and it was
5 going to be installed and it was turned down
6 because they couldn't afford to do it for the
7 whole county. But they were going to do it for
8 this school.

9 Is there a response to that?

10 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yes. There are some
11 items that have been donated.

12 SPEAKER: This was a whole security system,
13 entire secure system.

14 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: To my recollection
15 there isn't a whole security system and I don't
16 know the details of what you're talking about
17 that's been donated to the School Board.

18 SPEAKER: I was at the meeting.

19 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: There are a lot of
20 vendors, hundreds of them that have descended on
21 our community with all types of solutions that
22 aren't exactly what they suggest that they are
23 once you peel away and look under the covers and
24 figure out what's really required.

25 SPEAKER: Well, we don't have anything right

1 now, so isn't it better than what we have at the
2 moment? Sometimes we're just going to have to at
3 some point take a leap and say we're going to
4 have to try something. I know at Thursday's
5 meeting where you said how about if we randomly
6 let the dogs in? Just check randomly? It's just
7 a start, just something.

8 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: And I said earlier in
9 this meeting I will go back and have a --

10 SPEAKER: I remember. We're sick and tired
11 of hearing what you're going to do. We want to
12 see something happen.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's so you look like you
14 care.

15 SPEAKER: Do you realize how many people have
16 stood up here and asked you to resign? The
17 reason is because you haven't done your job
18 properly. And let's just look at it as a real
19 human being would step down and say I haven't
20 done my job properly, I need to step down.

21 Go home, discuss it with your wife. I'll
22 tell you something, if you were my husband I
23 would have a whole lot to say to you. I would be
24 pissed off. I don't know what's going on in your
25 house but your' not doing your job.

1 MR. WEBSTER: Again I would ask you all,
2 please be respectful of the clock.

3 SPEAKER: My name is *****. My son, *****,
4 was shot and survived in one of the classrooms
5 here at MSD. I am not an activist. I don't have
6 a hashtag or a bumper sticker. I'm just a mom
7 attempting to navigate my son and my family
8 through the emotional, painful trauma that we all
9 went through on February 14th.

10 We can all agree that the person ultimately
11 responsible for these evil acts is sitting in
12 jail, but we can also agree that at MSD
13 roadblocks were lifted, checkpoints were ignored,
14 allowing this tragedy to take place.

15 The culture created in Broward Schools forces
16 staff to report discipline issues, and even when
17 referrals are written, administrators have the
18 authority to delete those referrals without
19 consulting the teacher who wrote it.

20 The Superintendent and the Board's goal to
21 lower juvenile crime stats was easily achieved
22 because they simply stopped documenting
23 discipline and violations. But there isn't
24 enough time here tonight for me to discuss all
25 the deficiencies we have come across since this

1 tragedy, so I will focus on one of the most
2 incomprehensible deficiencies to this day that
3 continues to plague Marjory Stoneman Douglas and
4 the district, the lack of total communication and
5 forward thinking coming from a school. And I
6 don't mean a breakdown of communication, I mean a
7 complete absence, nothing from the school where
8 my son was shot. And we don't want to hear that
9 there isn't a playbook excuse, because there
10 actually is a playbook, it's called compassion,
11 leadership and professionalism.

12 Tonight I wanted to introduce you, Mr.
13 Thompson, to ***** mom. Their children were shot
14 here at this school and haven't had the
15 opportunity to meet you. They were sitting on
16 the right-hand side of the room, but they left.

17 Actually, I wanted to see a show of hands
18 from parents of students in this room if they
19 have ever received a phone call this past year,
20 and I don't mean a robocall, from anyone at MSD
21 asking if their child in the 1200 building where
22 the mass murder took place, did they get home
23 from school? Their child was a witness to
24 horror, is he or she okay? Is there anything in
25 the school we can do to assist your child who was

1 fortunate to survive this tragedy? My family
2 didn't get that call. And I really don't know a
3 single family that did. My neighbor was on the
4 third floor of the 1200 building and he ran from
5 the school through the terrible crime scene and
6 since then he hasn't gotten checked in on from
7 the school. It's almost been a year.

8 How on earth can this administration think
9 that this is okay? These students were shot and
10 terrorized in your school by one of your
11 students. The response was unprofessional
12 dismissive and embarrassing.

13 MSD administration let a lot of students and
14 parents down in the past year, and a little bit
15 of personal acknowledgement would've come a long
16 way. It is too late for MSD to quote lack of
17 staff, or there wasn't contact information or
18 they were hindered by the investigation.

19 In the aftermath if you folks used compassion
20 for these students instead of politics, media
21 relations and celebrity appearances maybe there
22 wouldn't be so much disappointment.

23 I want to be fair and inform the
24 administration that the district did hire a
25 liaison for teacher, student and family. I have

1 heard from the liaison two or three times in the
2 past year. And some of the other injured
3 students haven't even heard from them.

4 This continues to be the theme that MSD
5 administrators still lack reality of what
6 happened here and the impact that it will have
7 forever. Broward schools claim to use the
8 slogan, Children First, this tragedy showed us
9 that this isn't the case.

10 Sometimes, Mr. Runcie and Mr. Thompson, we
11 don't need wellness centers and outside experts.
12 The kids need you to be transparent, to reach out
13 as parents yourselves and to tell the community
14 we've had failures and we're working to fix it.

15 We don't need meetings a year after the fact.
16 We needed a meeting 11 months ago before these
17 traumatized students stepped back into the
18 school.

19 This meeting's designed by the district's PR
20 firm trying to get ahead of the one-year
21 anniversary. We don't need more dialogue or more
22 conversation, which are really just code words
23 for doing nothing.

24 What the students and parents need is
25 confidence in MSD to show true leadership,

1 especially in times of trouble.

2 MSD needs leadership for the hard issues, for
3 the difficult questions, for the honesty,
4 transparency and the healing of our children,
5 your students, who somehow, even suffering, find
6 the courage to come to your school and focus on
7 their future.

8 Thank you.

9 SPEAKER: Hello, my name is ***** --

10 MR. WEBSTER: And just for everyone, this
11 will be our last speaker this evening.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No, no, no, no. Let them
13 speak. That's why you're here. Let them speak.

14 They've waited a whole year for this. You
15 cannot let her be the last one.

16 MR. WEBSTER: We started a bit late and we
17 pushed it --

18 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: We'll let everybody
19 speak that wants to speak.

20 SPEAKER: Thank you. And I want to thank you
21 for now having a meeting even though I do feel it
22 is quite late and I do feel that as parents we
23 have been left a lot in the dark over this past
24 year on how to help our children. My daughter
25 was in the 1200 building and she also was on the

1 third floor. And that day she was left without
2 anyone to care for her. She was sent out into a
3 hallway. She was knocked down and she was left
4 there barely making it back to the classroom
5 where she sat and heard her fellow students being
6 killed. She heard shots coming and was wondering
7 if she was the one that was going to be next,
8 just to find out later that night that her friend
9 had passed away. I couldn't even be with her
10 that evening because I was in the trauma center
11 with one of the shooting victims.

12 I just want to tell you we have spent the
13 last year trying to help our children understand
14 what we don't understand ourselves. We have
15 never once, the parents in our home, told our
16 daughter that we understand what she went through
17 because we cannot understand. I was not in that
18 building. I don't know what happened to her and
19 how she processed anything. But I know enough
20 not to tell her that I understand that. January
21 24th I get a phone call, one of your robocalls,
22 telling me that the students in the 1200 building
23 were purposely being targeted for interviews to
24 check up on them to find out how they are doing.
25 This is 11 months after the shooting had taken

1 place. You have no idea what trauma they have
2 gone through. You have no idea what they have
3 gone through in their home, what help they may
4 have had. We do appreciate the help that has
5 been offered and it has been voluntary over the
6 last 11 months.

7 But you did not have my parental permission
8 to pull my daughter out of her classroom and ask
9 her questions, specifically, in regards to the
10 shooting. That is what happened to her. I
11 received a call on the 24th in the evening saying
12 that there would be a targeted group of
13 counselors going out to students in the 1200
14 building and asking them questions regarding the
15 shooting. The next morning my daughter calls me
16 in inconsolable tears telling me that she had
17 been asked a series of questions about how she's
18 handling the shooting, whether or not she saw a
19 victim, how she's handling that in her life. You
20 did not have that right.

21 My daughter was re-traumatized that day. We
22 are back to square one just like it was February
23 14th, thanks to you, thanks to the district.

24 I went to the school. I called them on my
25 way to the school and asked them to dismiss my

1 daughter. I asked her administrators who were
2 all in meetings, that administrative assistant
3 pushed me to the point and asked me what it is
4 that I wanted to speak about that day. And I
5 told that poor administrative assistant that it's
6 not fair for her to hear this, but what in --
7 what shouldn't have happened to my daughter that
8 day. I walked into that office, again I was
9 asked why are you taking your daughter out of
10 this school? My answer is because she's still
11 not safe, physically, or mentally here at this
12 school.

13 Please write that down.

14 And, somehow, an administrator was available
15 because I'm making a scene in the office. I go
16 to the administrator who proceeds to tell me
17 these interviews have been going on all year. I
18 said, no, they have not. You cannot force these
19 children into therapy without their parental
20 consent. And I can tell you, my daughter has a
21 504, I know legally you cannot meet with her
22 without getting consent from me first and you get
23 my signature. Tell me how with a trauma victim
24 you can do that. I have no understanding of
25 that.

1 So my daughter, I meet with her. The
2 administrator had no answers for me. She didn't
3 even know this was taking place and was quite
4 sure I was wrong. Two hours later I get a phone
5 call. This is only -- this occurred two or three
6 weeks ago. I get a phone call hearing that it's
7 the district's guidance counselors who are
8 targeting students and pulling them out and
9 putting them through this traumatization without
10 parental consent.

11 Why as the a School Board are you not working
12 with Stoneman Douglas? Why are you not working
13 with our community? Why are you traumatizing our
14 students? You've had 11 months. Don't just do
15 it without our help and without our consent. We
16 are the parents of these children. We care more
17 about them than, obviously, you have the last 11
18 months. Ask for our help. Come to the meetings
19 and ask, how can we make it better? Don't just
20 step in and try to fix something that you've
21 already left broken for 11 months.

22 SPEAKER: My name is *****. I have 11th and
23 10th grade sons. During your time,
24 Superintendent, Mr. Runcie, since 2011 the
25 threats posed in elementary, middle schools and

1 high schools, in your schools, are exhibited
2 scores of times. Calls to the sheriff's office,
3 scores of them. There was nothing -- nothing was
4 done.

5 How many other monsters like this are in
6 Broward Schools?

7 You failed to even acknowledge that the
8 murderer was in the PROMISE program. There was
9 such a lack of transparency after the shooting.
10 He should have had a criminal record. Broward
11 Schools, the sheriff -- the sheriff has been
12 taken care of by the governor, but for the school
13 he should have had a criminal record.

14 No threat assessment was done on this
15 murderer. There's so much responsibility under
16 you, Superintendent Runcie.

17 There was an \$800 million bond back in 2014,
18 100 million of which should have gone towards
19 school safety. That's four years ago. In four
20 years we could have figured out -- with \$100 we
21 could have drawn the hard corners.

22 One of the big miracles -- there was one
23 miracle that I saw after the shooting, and it was
24 that window that prevented him from shooting
25 many, many other students. I don't think you

1 have to be a rocket scientist to say, why don't
2 we try some more of those tiny windows in the
3 school? How many bulletproof windows are there
4 in our schools? That would be too expensive.
5 And as Ms. Alhadeff said, there's a lot of
6 technology that's not that expensive to detect
7 guns.

8 If they're in our airports, if they're in our
9 government buildings, if we're protecting all
10 these adults and people in general why aren't we
11 protecting our students? We should have the same
12 type of technology in our schools. It's out
13 there. There's been plenty of proposals.

14 It's been a year. It's too late. If you're
15 not prepared to tender your resignation I'm
16 asking that Ms. Alhadeff's colleagues, because
17 you know Mrs. Alhadeff's position, I'm asking
18 that her colleagues do the right thing and seek
19 for your resignation.

20 Thank you.

21 SPEAKER: Hello. My name is ***** . I am a
22 parent of a sophomore daughter. She was
23 obviously a freshman last year.

24 Just a few things before I actually get my
25 question. I know everybody is ready to go. I

1 just want to say that it would have really served
2 well for the district in terms of good will if
3 343 days later that first contact was made.
4 Because the FBI on February 15th at 8 a.m. came
5 to my house.

6 So they obviously knew way more than you guys
7 did.

8 So I don't think there's an excuse. And if
9 you had reached out to anybody in this room and
10 shown some humanity and some compassion it would
11 be such a different conversation today. I also
12 implore you to really think about, from an
13 emotional perspective, what it feels like as a
14 parent to send your child to school here every
15 day and what it feels as a student, where the
16 tallest building that they see from every point
17 on campus is the sight of a massacre where their
18 friends are dead and that building is as-is.

19 So think about that. We are asking our
20 teachers, our children, to focus, to attend, to
21 put their heads down and do their best. For
22 teachers who honestly -- I am a teacher in your
23 district. I know how hard it is. We are asking
24 them to be with teachers who show up, maybe I
25 have -- my daughter's teacher's absent every

1 week. College doesn't care that a teacher is
2 absent every week and that she's not teaching and
3 I'm heartfelt to that, but it's not working.

4 So on that note, what I really want to talk
5 about is we know why we're here and how we got
6 here. We know the incident of that day. What I
7 want to talk about is for me. I work in your
8 district and I work with the most vulnerable
9 children and families in this district, in the
10 same types of programs which the coward that came
11 to our school that day grew up in. And I can
12 tell you that, sadly, the teachers that I work
13 with shrill, because our children are in crisis.
14 And the administrators, what do they do? They
15 assume a culture of permission. And this culture
16 of permission asks -- it says to the teacher,
17 every day my teachers expect to be hit, kicked,
18 punched, have furniture thrown at them, and it is
19 expected that they take it. That is the
20 expectation from the top down.

21 The parents are never held accountable. I
22 cannot call a parent because the parent is the
23 customer. The parent is not accountable. They
24 are never uncomfortable. The parent says to me
25 in a conference, they're your student when

1 they're here from seven to two, you deal with it.

2 So what do we have? We have a consistent
3 issue where the bad ones get kicked down the road
4 and show up at another school. So what I want to
5 know is -- I am telling you, we do not, in the
6 youngest years where we can get this and we can
7 help, we do not have the resources for our
8 students. We need trauma informed resources.
9 Our teachers need it. We need it.

10 I'm a coach. I'm a mentor. I'm an expert.
11 I deal with homelessness, foster care. I deal
12 with children who saw their father shoot their
13 mother in front of them. These are children in
14 our district and they are growing up getting
15 access to guns. I have four-year-olds saying
16 they're going to kill themselves.

17 We do not have the tools at all, as teachers,
18 as social workers, as administrators, to deal
19 with the reality of what our society is now
20 bringing us. It's changed.

21 This is the world we live in now. We need to
22 change with the times and we are drowning.

23 And that's my only statement.

24 SPEAKER: Good evening. My name is ***** and
25 I just wanted to circle back to the topic that

1 one of the other parents mentioned. You know,
2 earlier you were proud that you brought these
3 portables in in a third of the time. I'm not
4 sure if you're aware of how these portables are
5 structured. I went to the meet and greet for my
6 class and I sat in a seat that looked over a
7 large, huge picture window to the left, next to
8 the door, another window, across from there,
9 another window. I said to him when I got home,
10 where are you supposed to go in a code red? He
11 said, Mom, the teacher asked the officer the same
12 question and got no answer.

13 He just had a code red in that classroom this
14 last month, a couple weeks ago. Where did you
15 go? Unfortunately, Mom, you had to lay across
16 the large picture window on the floor. The
17 teacher said he did the best that he could to
18 move his desk in front of the other window. Now,
19 we all know that's impossible when the teacher
20 has, you know, his best interest at heart, trying
21 to comfort him with this answer. But, again, we
22 need to look into where is that safe zone in
23 those portables? And I'm assuming that they're
24 going to be around for a while. So what are we
25 going to do in the meantime as far as that glass

1 goes or a safe zone to help them be safe in this
2 very much exposed environment?

3 MR. MOQUIN: I just want to talk about the
4 safer zones and the hard corners.

5 So we have been working with both law
6 enforcement as well as our independent security
7 specialists as we move forward in an effort to
8 pass a policy around the safer spaces. We've
9 also been reaching out to other school districts
10 that claim they too have implemented similar
11 programs. And what we're finding is that there
12 are nuances with trying to identify safer spaces.
13 So some the of things that I've heard this
14 evening from parents are, in fact, just that,
15 limitations with the concepts.

16 And so --

17 SPEAKER: I feel like it's a Band-Aid, that
18 you guys were rushing and wanted to get the
19 project done to be proud of yourself to have more
20 space.

21 MR. MOQUIN: I think we're constantly
22 challenged with trying to move forward in a
23 thoughtful an systemic way, understanding that we
24 have to balance the needs of this community,
25 which are tremendous, with the needs of the

1 entire district. And, you know, my office, we
2 receive a lot of concerns from both parents of
3 this audience, it's nice to put some faces with
4 names from e-mails we have received in the past,
5 but also from parents throughout the entire
6 community who have similar concerns based on, you
7 know, the tragedy that this community has
8 experienced.

9 And so we're constantly trying to balance
10 that sense of urgency to move as expeditiously as
11 we can with trying to do it in a thoughtful and
12 systemic way and an effective way. And so, I
13 mean, I submit to that we don't always get that
14 right and there is a lot of bureaucracy within a
15 governmental organization this large, but we try
16 to strip through that. And I just sit here and
17 apologize if we don't always get it right
18 balancing the sense of urgency with respect to
19 that early utilization.

20 MR. WEBSTER: I'd ask that you make this a
21 priority seeing that I'm assuming these are going
22 to be there for a while and looking for a
23 solution to the exposed windows or at least
24 assist this teacher in helping to find ways to do
25 help the students.

1 MR. MOQUIN: You know, again, I don't want
2 to -- I don't want to make an excuse. Because I
3 know that that's not going to serve any purpose.

4 It's just that given the configuration and
5 the design of some rooms, I mean, the guidance
6 that's given in our code red protocols and
7 generally what I'm being told from experts is
8 really about getting out of the line of sight.

9 SPEAKER: They're exposed.

10 MR. MOQUIN: You're right. You're absolutely
11 right and that is a limitation of the design of
12 the portables.

13 SPEAKER: They are not safe in the portables.
14 There is glass everywhere.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They're easy targets in
16 those portables. Right now a crazy mind, if
17 they're trying to do something again, they are
18 the targets, those portables. We have to do
19 something now.

20 Build a portable metal wall around that. But
21 do something.

22 Because if something happens, we are seeing
23 the faces here.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can you please just have
25 someone watching it all day?

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Someone could shoot them
2 from the street. The portables are wide open.
3 You took them out of the building and put them
4 outside.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can you have someone in
6 that portable area to secure it, because those
7 kids sitting in there, they don't feel -- they're
8 not safe sitting there. My son has three classes
9 in there. He is not safe. He thinks about it
10 every minute he's in there. He has asked the
11 teachers. Every teacher says, I really don't
12 know what to do. They have no policy. They
13 don't have a clue what to do in those portables.
14 It needs to be addressed.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They have to have someone
16 in a golf cart watching it or monitoring it.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They're in the line of
18 fire, sir. That's a real mess. We have to work
19 on security of those portables.

20 Listen to me. That is a clear shot. Clear
21 shot.

22 MR. MOQUIN: I agree with you.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Who is the chief of
24 security here, student security, on your board?
25 I don't see one. If it is a priority under you,

1 we should have one. You know, you should have
2 brought one if there is such a person.

3 We need to have student security as a
4 priority.

5 We don't need excuses. You see, here is a
6 chance. We have the portables. We've got a
7 problem. We have a security issue here. Work on
8 that. Skills -- don't keep bringing us the
9 skills, it's just an act. We want action. We
10 want something. Just do what is supposed to be
11 done and then we'll be happy. Listen to her.
12 Listen to her.

13 SUPERINTENDANT RUNCIE: I hear you. All
14 right. I understand and hear you about the
15 portables.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I was scared when I got
17 there when I visited the open house. I looked at
18 them and I was scared. I was.

19 MR. WEBSTER: Okay. We're going to not do
20 any more shouting; okay? Please utilize the
21 microphone. We're listening to you.

22 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So we will think of
23 some additional security for the portables. And
24 if it's additional security, armed security
25 staff, if there's some other issue we can put in

1 we'll put some additional security in that area.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

3 Tomorrow. Tomorrow. Now.

4 You know, I don't know, sir, I don't know who
5 took care of security for this place tonight, but
6 that person did this very well. I saw so many
7 armed people here protecting you. Hire the same
8 person to protect our kids.

9 MR. WEBSTER: Sir, please, once again, I will
10 reemphasize --

11 SUPERINTENDANT RUNCIE: We know that it is a
12 priority to get some additional security officers
13 over at the portables, sir.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Tomorrow.

15 SUPERINTENDANT RUNCIE: We don't have our own
16 officers. I have to go to other law enforcement
17 agencies to do that. So I'm not going to sit
18 here and tell you that I'm going to have somebody
19 there tomorrow. What I'm going to commit to is
20 this week we will go and identify who can provide
21 us security, which is basically you have to go to
22 BSO to do that.

23 MR. WEBSTER: Ma'am, please?

24 SPEAKER: Hello. My name is *****. I am
25 currently a sophomore here at Marjory Stoneman

1 Douglas.

2 And first of all I have a question and then I
3 have a request of you all.

4 So I was told as a student that we as kids
5 weren't going to be allowed at this meeting today
6 and then I came and there was no hesitance, so I
7 was able to come in. So I feel as though it's my
8 responsibility as the only student that's
9 speaking today to speak on behalf of my friends.

10 So my questions will be yes or no questions
11 for the whole board, so please don't try to
12 sidestep, just yes or no is a good answer.

13 So if I organize a roundtable with students
14 will you guys attend? Because you guys
15 constantly preach that you want to help the
16 students, but you can't help us students if you
17 don't ask us questions and you don't talk to us.

18 So if I organize one will you come?

19 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: The answer is yes and
20 I've attended several roundtables here with
21 students so far.

22 SPEAKER: I've never heard of one.

23 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: But if you organize
24 one I will attend.

25 SPEAKER: Can I please have your phone number

1 to make sure?

2 SUPERINTENDANT RUNCIE: Yes, ma'am, you can.

3 SPEAKER: Okay. I have another question.
4 You guys have hundreds of schools that you have
5 to cover here in Broward County. And I
6 understand that that would be hard for anybody,
7 but something that I see on this board right now
8 is that there is no student from Douglas, from
9 any school in Broward County on that board right
10 now. And I think that's a serious problem. And
11 I think that you guys should have any school
12 student representative for every single board
13 meeting. That way you have representation from
14 every student.

15 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So let me ask you
16 what you're saying. We have a student
17 representative on the School Board. You're
18 saying have one from --

19 SPEAKER: No, I don't see any of them on
20 board right now.

21 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: I mean, this is not
22 necessarily a Board meeting, but we do have a
23 student representative attend all of the Board
24 meetings and workshops.

25 SPEAKER: Are they here today?

1 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: No, they are not here
2 today.

3 SPEAKER: Why not?

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That isn't what
5 representation looks like. Stop doing things for
6 the press and actually do it because it's the
7 right thing to do.

8 SPEAKER: I'm sorry. If this is a board
9 meeting for my school and you don't see what my
10 friends and I go through every single day coming
11 to this school. You don't see the people that
12 are crying in bathroom stalls because we can't
13 get proper mental help in this school. Even
14 though I had to wait 30 minutes for somebody to
15 actually talk to me when I was crying my eyes
16 out.

17 So I think it's really important that you
18 guys have a representative from at least Marjory
19 Stoneman Douglas when you're talking about
20 Marjory Stoneman Douglas who knows what's going
21 on in this school every single day.

22 So is that something you can do? Yes or no.

23 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yes, that's something
24 we can do. We can work to make sure we get a
25 representative from Stoneman Douglas involved, a

1 student involved in discussions around issues
2 that would impact the school.

3 SPEAKER: By when?

4 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: We will start doing
5 that immediately. If you want to be the
6 representative we'll find some process.
7 Typically, it would be through your student
8 government association.

9 SPEAKER: My friend's actually the president.
10 I'm sure she would be glad to help.

11 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Okay.

12 SPEAKER: Awesome. Thank you.

13 SPEAKER: Hello. I'm *****. I am the proud
14 mom of ***** and ***** and a public school
15 teacher with 30 years of experience. I've seen
16 both Mr. Runcie and Mrs. Wanza in my classroom in
17 the last year.

18 My question is simple, as an educator and a
19 parent in Parkland I feel that all the students
20 who were here the day of the tragedy and our
21 families have a life sentence.

22 My children, my family, we're all suffering,
23 the whole community, from PTSD.

24 Now my entire family could use help through
25 things that the School Board has put in place,

1 which is wonderful. However, I have spoken to a
2 number of community members who have no idea what
3 a 504 plan is.

4 And I believe that the School Board needs to
5 meet with the community, the parents of every
6 child, whether they're in a private school now,
7 which many are, or those who are still here, I
8 want you to meet with the families and explain
9 what a 504 plan is and why their children should
10 have one.

11 Will you commit to meeting with the families
12 and explain what a 504 plan is?

13 If you know what to ask for there are
14 wonderful people here, Ms. Chirichella, who is
15 wonderful at getting people 504 plans, but even
16 people I know in the education community don't
17 seem to know they can ask for one for their
18 child. And for all of you who don't know, it is
19 under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you
20 may ask for special accommodations for your child
21 who is suffering from anxiety due to post
22 traumatic stress. You should all have one for
23 your child. It could follow them into college
24 and they can have special accommodations.

25 Will you have a meeting with the parents and

1 explain what they are so everyone, every student
2 from this school can have a level playing field
3 with the other people, students in the United
4 States of America who have not suffered the
5 tragedy that they have?

6 Will you do that?

7 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yes, we will. I
8 thought we had started that process.

9 Ms. Pope can you talk about the 504
10 conversations we've had with the parents so far?

11 MS. POPE: There has been several meetings
12 for parents in the evenings that talk about those
13 options to receive accommodations and the
14 processes and many parents have taken advantage
15 of them. In fact there has been a huge increase
16 in numbers of 504s.

17 SPEAKER: But let every single person know,
18 via e-mail, via letter, via everything.

19 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Well, we will send
20 out notice to --

21 SPEAKER: We're in trauma. We're in trauma.

22 I don't want to come to school and teach all
23 day and come to a meeting at night. I want to go
24 home and go to bed. That's all I can do. And I
25 wasn't a teacher at this school. I teach and I

1 come home and I go to bed because I can't handle
2 the depression and everything I'm going through.
3 And I am in group therapy, individual therapy,
4 medicated.

5 Our community is in trauma and we need you to
6 step up or get the fuck out of the way.

7 Thank you. No disrespect.

8 SPEAKER: Hi. I'm *****. I am here as a
9 parent tonight and as a teacher. I teach down
10 the street at Country Hills and we are just a
11 stone's throw from here. At my school many of us
12 that were teachers there had students on campus,
13 but we also have teachers here who were
14 traumatized whose children go to my school.

15 And my concern is, I have been trained to
16 pack a bleed, I have been trained to block the
17 door, and I feel the same way as many of the
18 parents here. I've been reading the e-mails and
19 I've been trying to keep track of where the help
20 is, but also, as a teacher, I have kids over
21 there that were in lockdown and whose parents
22 were traumatized and I don't feel trained to help
23 them every day, let alone my own child. And I
24 really feel like I'm trying to keep up with all
25 the information you're giving, but, I mean, you

1 know, people come in and teach me how to take
2 care of the wounded but I don't really feel like
3 I'm getting quality help on how to help my
4 children emotionally.

5 So what is the plan, aside from the many
6 e-mails I've received about social disorders for
7 this particular month, to help our students in
8 community? Because there are a lot of students
9 who weren't here last year who had siblings on
10 campus and they are going to be going through
11 this for years to come as well as everybody who
12 was on campus that day.

13 MS. POPE: So we started initiatives and we
14 are putting on trainings for first aid mental
15 health for teachers, for paraprofessionals and
16 for school staff across the district.

17 Since the tragedy we have increased that
18 training to where we're training over 300
19 teachers, paraprofessionals and people in the
20 classroom just about monthly. So that training
21 is available. It really takes you through some
22 of the psychological first aid pieces that if
23 you're not a clinician that you can gain some
24 skills to try and help your students, try and
25 help yourself, try and be able to support your

1 families. So that training is available.

2 We're continuing the trainings. In fact,
3 every Saturday we have groups of teachers coming
4 in for training and we have put that information
5 out because we're getting a lot of people coming
6 for training. So I will be sure to share that
7 with you. I heard earlier that we need to share
8 that information with elected officials. Schools
9 have received that information through leaders to
10 share with their teachers.

11 So, again, we'll keep those efforts going and
12 I'll share that with you this evening as a
13 followup so that we can get the word out that
14 that training is available and that support is
15 very helpful.

16 You can also work with the clinician that's
17 assigned to your school, so your school
18 counselor, the social worker, the family
19 therapist that's in the zone to gain some
20 information, some insight on how to do exactly
21 what you're asking to do.

22 And the fact that you're willing to is a
23 great thing. Understand that there are many
24 teachers who have said to us they don't want that
25 training. They don't feel that they should have

1 to. But there are others who are open and
2 willing to receive it and to just be that support
3 and that conduit for the kids in their area.

4 So, thank you.

5 SPEAKER: Hello. I'm *****. I've got two
6 boys here at Stoneman Douglas. One was in 9th
7 grade last year and is in 10th grade this year,
8 the other one was in 10th grade last year and is
9 in 11th grade this year.

10 This is the first year that both my boys are
11 at the Stoneman Douglas. My older son came from
12 private school and he started in the 10th grade.
13 He would have been in the building that day, but
14 by the grace of God he stayed home because he was
15 not prepared for a test. My other son was in the
16 building seconds before. They both have been
17 suffering greatly.

18 And to feed off of what Ms. ***** said about
19 the 504 plan, I had no idea that a 504 plan
20 existed until about four weeks ago. I didn't
21 know that this was an option for my children. I
22 stumbled upon it when trying to do some research
23 because my son came here from private school,
24 first semester earned five As and two Bs, I can't
25 remember exactly, but he did remember well.

1 Second semester he failed one of his classes, and
2 he's a gifted student, because he had so much
3 anxiety. And this past semester, again, failing
4 courses. A gifted student with a very
5 exceptional high IQ who had mostly As -- and also
6 none of the teachers contacted me saying your son
7 is in jeopardy of failing. The second semester
8 last year my son would say to me, oh, the teacher
9 didn't put in the grade, it hasn't been graded
10 yet. And I felt bad for the teacher and I didn't
11 want to put pressure on the teacher, and then my
12 son ended up with an F.

13 Talking about School Board Policy, I also did
14 some research, their School Board Policy is to
15 contact a parent when your child is in trouble
16 academically. And no one ever contacted me.

17 And, again, I stumbled upon this 504 plan.
18 So I'm glad I got the 504 plan for my one son.
19 I'm going to try to work on my other son's next.

20 And I came here to listen to you talk about
21 all of which has been discussed already, about
22 the failures, the unaccountability, the no sense
23 of urgency to get things done.

24 But I have to tell you, I'm sitting here just
25 in shock over the lack of compassion, Mr. Runcie.

1 You say you're here for us. You say you're
2 compassionate. You say you think about it every
3 day. But Lori Alhadeff, this woman lost her
4 daughter in this school. She took that grief,
5 and I don't know how she mustered the energy to
6 do it, but to run for School Board and to stand
7 up for all of us and all our children. And when
8 she comes to you and when we come to you asking
9 why can't you at least help her get that
10 secretary that is so over qualified and what she
11 deserves, and your response is she has every
12 right to go try to change the job description.

13 What about helping her do everything she
14 possibly can to get that very well-qualified
15 woman as her secretary? It's the least you can
16 do. And just on that note, especially in light
17 of the fact that her daughter was killed under
18 your watch, under your administration, for that
19 reason alone you should help her.

20 Thank you.

21 SPEAKER: My name is ***** and my son is the
22 neighbor of *****.

23 I'm just really coming to you as a father.
24 And I think many of you experiencing that day
25 remember some of those text message as if it was

1 yesterday. Dad, I hear gunshots. What am I
2 supposed to do? Some kids are laughing, some
3 kids are crying. And then days passed. You
4 know, what I'm living with now is trying to
5 understand the guilt. My son survived. There
6 might be some emotional wounds that he has yet to
7 still understand, but as a father I still walk
8 with, you know, did I do enough to get him
9 through it? Am I still doing enough to get him
10 through it? And my daughter was affected, too,
11 she goes to Coral Springs Middle School. And
12 told me they were affected just the same.

13 And so when I refer to guilt, it's sort of
14 this conversation we're having today, you know,
15 and, you know, we're right next door. Our kids
16 grew up together. And I would like to think that
17 I knew how to say and do the right thing in going
18 to speak to her, but I didn't know. I've never
19 seen anything like this happen in the community.
20 Normally this is something that you watch on TV
21 and say, oh, wow, that's sad. When we
22 experienced 9/11, that's sad. When we heard
23 about Columbine, that's sad. When we heard about
24 Sandy Hook we all came together, right, in some
25 respect, but then it's in your home.

1 And then, you know, when I was coming here
2 tonight, you know I was expecting really, and I
3 may be the minority, maybe I missed that
4 community meeting, but I wasn't expecting anger.

5 You know I was always told that, you know, if
6 there's a problem you come in with a solution.
7 But I'm hearing a list of things that were talked
8 about tonight, but it seems like we're bypassing
9 all the logical solutions.

10 I'm challenging you, healing, yes. You might
11 not like what they're saying up there, but it is
12 a process. I'm still going through it. Someone
13 told me a long time ago when we go through
14 something in a marriage or in a relationship,
15 it's like a new norm. Especially when tragedy
16 and death happens in the family. It's all part
17 of the healing process. And, yes, they provided
18 a list of things and that's what I was going to
19 come here to hear, but also I was coming to
20 connect with you, connect with you that, you
21 know, am I saying the right things to my son? Am
22 I saying the right things to be a better father
23 to my daughter?

24 But while I'm sitting here I was disconnected
25 because I was hearing more anger than I was

1 hearing solutions. But we're saying, he, he, he.

2 It takes a community. Okay? We watch the
3 news. We hear the -- we hear the saying, it
4 takes a village. But just saying it is a person,
5 but we all have a responsibility in this process.
6 But in this responsibility it seems like -- this
7 is my minority opinion, that it seems to be a
8 little displaced. Because I was coming here
9 saying, you know what, what is this community
10 asking and where do I need to be? How do I
11 volunteer? Do I need to do painting or
12 something? When's the next memorial? Are we
13 talking about Valentine's? What am I going to do
14 with my son on Valentine's Day? That's what I
15 thought I was going to hear, but I'm hearing, you
16 know, get rid of, you know, it's just -- so all
17 I'm saying is, in light of -- let me just finish.
18 Let me just finish. Let me just finish.

19 I'm not targeting you. I'm not targeting
20 anybody here.

21 It's okay because we do live in a place where
22 we have the right to express ourselves; correct?

23 And so my expression is not to tear any of
24 you down, but if anything, can we try to express
25 a sense of togetherness, togetherness?

1 In terms of the solutions that have been put
2 out there, if there is accountability, then we
3 can talk about that. If they're saying putting
4 more cameras in, if they have a project in place,
5 then we're asking questions; okay? When, how and
6 why? And we're looking for those.

7 But we're spending more conversations on,
8 okay, well we heard about what you're saying but
9 we want you to go. To me, I didn't think that
10 that was part of the solution and that's all I
11 wanted to say.

12 Thank you.

13 SPEAKER: I'm ***** and I have a 10th grader
14 who was here last year on that horrible day as a
15 freshman and a senior who graduated, thank
16 goodness. Most of my thoughts and concerns were
17 addressed and I thank all the parents that have
18 expressed them for me. Most not answered, but
19 addressed.

20 I guess just one thing I just, knowing
21 everything that has happened in this past year, I
22 find it difficult to put faith in the School
23 Board and its actions.

24 Could this body please enlighten the
25 community as to why we should entrust our

1 children under your supervision?

2 And that was voiced by my children, so I
3 thought I would express their question to you.

4 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Yeah, you know, I
5 said it earlier today and I meant what I said,
6 and that is we're going to continue to do
7 everything we can to make our schools safer, this
8 school, all our schools in Parkland, throughout
9 the county, safer than they've ever been. And
10 we're going to make -- and that is a top priority
11 and that's what we focus and work on each and
12 every day.

13 Yes, we've made progress. We know it's not
14 enough. We know there are concerns here. I
15 heard a lot about the portables, for example.

16 That's why we're here, to get that kind of
17 feedback so we can figure out what else we need
18 to focus on, what's really impacting, not just
19 physical security, but the psychological safety
20 and security of this community.

21 And, again, I pledge that I want to work with
22 this community to fix that. I believe we are in
23 the best position to do that. We -- you know,
24 we're here prepared to continue to do that and
25 work with this community and every single person

1 out here that wants to work with us.

2 SPEAKER: Just to go back a little bit. I
3 heard a lot of the talk about that you don't have
4 a definitive code red drill system. It's really
5 the PTSD that these kids are suffering from with
6 not having it evaluated completely, and if you're
7 going through the process I understand that. But
8 until that process is in place these drills are
9 doing real damage, that, as a parent, we have to
10 deal with when they come home from that
11 experience. And I would just like that to be
12 really considered if there's anything that can be
13 done to alleviate that for our children?

14 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: We'll look at that
15 and work with a couple of our trauma counselors
16 to figure this out. Because at some level we've
17 got to be able to do the drills and people need
18 to know what to do in the event of a threat.

19 SPEAKER: Right. But if you don't have it
20 clear yet, teaching them the wrong way isn't the
21 right way. And they're suffering while that's
22 happening. It's like they're the guinea pigs
23 until you get it right. So that's just kind of a
24 stress to their mental state and it sets them
25 back each time. So you may want to consider

1 that.

2 SPEAKER: Good evening. My name is *****. I
3 have two boys who were at school, one a senior
4 who has graduated, another one who was a freshman
5 in the 1200 building on the third floor and he's
6 a sophomore.

7 I guess when I was listening to the comments
8 one thing that became really clear to me and to
9 my wife is that communication, there's really a
10 need for some more comprehensive communication.

11 There's security measures that are being
12 considered. There are, you know, trauma services
13 for students and staff. There are things that
14 need to be considered to identify active
15 students, a whole series of measures that are
16 being considered, but the communication seems to
17 fall through the cracks. So I think it would
18 just be helpful to come up with a communication
19 plan that would be comprehensive communication
20 that's proactive. I think it would go a long way
21 to, you know, just help the students' concerns.
22 That's just my point.

23 The second point I think is just with respect
24 to all these security measures that have been
25 posed, I can imagine that's a lot to go through

1 and think about.

2 My question is, are you resourced
3 appropriately? Shouldn't you have someone in a
4 department to implement these measures, to
5 observe the code reds in the school and see if
6 they're being complied with? Normally, not
7 anything that any of us would have considered
8 years ago that we needed in this school system,
9 but here we are, so I think that's something to
10 consider.

11 MR. MOQUIN: I think that's an excellent -- I
12 think your comments are spot on, sir. And one of
13 the priorities that Safe Havens International has
14 talked about is exactly that. And the
15 Superintendent mentioned one of the issues that
16 we're working on is implementing the Enterprise
17 Risk Management solution. Part of that is having
18 a new division of safety and security emergency
19 preparedness aligning the existing resources that
20 currently exist within the district that serve in
21 those functions, but also add additional
22 resources. The focus has been on trying to
23 identify and pick a Chief Safety & Security
24 Emergency Preparedness Officer. We had our final
25 evaluations last Friday and are in the process of

1 trying to negotiate an offer to the top-ranked
2 candidate.

3 So we're hopeful in the next, you know, two
4 to three weeks that we're going to be able to
5 bring a recommendation forward to the Board for
6 approval. And that will start a whole process.
7 The Board approved an additional \$3.2 million in
8 resources around the very issues you're talking
9 about. We need to have additional field
10 supervision over our current relationship with
11 law enforcement being able to have a training arm
12 to not just do annual training through a
13 PowerPoint but have more role-specific,
14 situation-specific trainings that are ongoing
15 throughout the year as well as having the very
16 robust central monitoring communication system
17 around -- around this effort.

18 And so part of the upgrade of the camera
19 system is to be able to centrally monitor them
20 and we, the Board, has approved additional
21 resources, 20 resources, to go ahead and staff
22 that and take -- we have a permanent 24/7/365
23 monitoring system, where it's more like an ADT
24 where they monitor the burglar alarms in the
25 evening, so this will become a more robust model

1 and it will be monitoring and using the benefit
2 and technology around the analytical cameras to
3 be able to have realtime information. There's
4 also resources that are going to be data analysts
5 who are going to be doing nothing but geoforensic
6 on social media. In order to do that we're going
7 to, also on the agenda tomorrow is a new
8 agreement, thanks to the leadership of Mrs.
9 Alhadeff who brought SaferWatch here. Right now
10 it is a BSO led resource but we will have
11 directed access to it now so that tips will come
12 rather than through BSO directly to us.

13 So, again, your point is well taken and
14 that's one of the primary recommendations that we
15 have been given. The timeline they're looking at
16 is not entirely done because it includes, you
17 know, the development of job descriptions, the
18 development of processes and procedures. Just
19 last month the Board approved an extension for
20 Safe Havens contract to begin doing that work and
21 so we're looking to have the semblance of that
22 division in place for the start of next school
23 year.

24 SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you. Which brings me
25 to that other point about communication. These

1 are the kinds of things the community needs to
2 know about what's going on, any comprehensive
3 ways. It's really important about the
4 communication piece. Thank you.

5 MS. ALHADEFF: And I think also on your point
6 we need to communicate. And what I'm hearing is
7 that we have really failed to communicate with
8 the parents.

9 So, Mr. Runcie, to that point how will you
10 move forward and have a clear communication plan?

11 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: Well, we have
12 established and to use them more effectively I
13 think we need to use every avenue we can, whether
14 it's through ParentLink, it's through
15 notifications through the schools, through
16 robocalls. It's working with our community
17 partners and agencies that work in this community
18 through our PTAs, our PTOs, our SACs, we will
19 just continue to use all of the various groups
20 that we can. I don't think there is one single
21 best way to reach everyone. We just need to keep
22 trying to use every way that's possible that's
23 out there.

24 So, you know, our communications folks are
25 here. We'll continue to do that. And I think

1 most of all we'll work with you to make sure that
2 we're identifying all the right agencies in the
3 communities. So if I ask you to, you know, give
4 us a list of what you can, challenge us to make
5 sure that we are utilizing all of the sources.
6 So with your help and support in compiling that
7 information from your community on how we best
8 can reach everyone, we will utilize that in a
9 very diligent fashion.

10 So thank you.

11 MR. WEBSTER: Any other speakers?

12 Well, with that we are at the end of our
13 parent meeting.

14 SPEAKER: Hi, good evening. I had two
15 daughters in school that day, a 9th and 10th
16 grader, and I'm not really understanding what
17 you're saying tonight. I relocated here after
18 9/11. I lost a lot of friends. I came here to
19 the safety of Parkland. We don't feel safe. My
20 daughters have shut down completely. The
21 counseling does not help and I'm very confused
22 about what you're saying as far as the metal
23 detectors are concerned. We need metal
24 detectors.

25 Maybe you should consider contacting the New

1 York City Public School Superintendent and ask
2 him how they implemented the metal detectors and
3 wands back in 1990 at East Gun Hill Road. They
4 would have problems with machetes back then. No
5 issues. No problems. Why? Single point of
6 entry is not a problem, not complicated. Just go
7 up to New York City.

8 I just don't understand. Our children are
9 scared every single day that somebody is going to
10 walk into that school and do this again. I'm
11 terrified. I work in Miami. On that day I had
12 to fly out of Miami, come here and I assisted at
13 the Marriott with the FBI. So it's very
14 upsetting.

15 I really want you to think clearly, contact
16 New York City, get some help implementing safety
17 measures that we can all get comfort by. We
18 can't sit here and listen to that anymore. We're
19 scared. That's why we're upset. That's why
20 we're screaming and yelling and acting like crazy
21 people. We're not crazy. We love our children.
22 We love our community.

23 Again, I moved out of New York City. We
24 survived 9/11, my husband and I. We're here. We
25 want to be safe. We don't feel safe at all.

1 And then on a different note, after the
2 shooting, after the children got back into
3 school, safety measures, again, I have issues
4 with. Somebody was allowed into my daughter's
5 classroom, Mrs. Lippel's classroom, because she
6 allowed them in. She allowed a uniformed member
7 officer to enter the classroom and communicate to
8 my daughter, who was traumatized, about the
9 shooting.

10 She did ask him to leave. She thought he
11 would be helpful. I called the school, tried to
12 get a hold of administrators, the principal,
13 nobody wanted to hear about. They would never
14 name an individual who was in uniform that went
15 in that classroom and then yelled at my daughter
16 because our code is, if you're scared and someone
17 is talking about that shooting and you don't want
18 to communicate about it, you don't want to hear
19 it, put your headphones on. Put your music on.
20 Wipe them out. And what did he do? He got in my
21 daughter's face and he was nasty and wanted to
22 know why she was reporting him. She was not
23 reporting him. Nobody at the school even asked
24 her.

25 So if safety has gotten better, I don't

1 understand, how did an unknown individual in
2 uniform enter a classroom who was not scheduled
3 to be there and communicate to our children? I
4 want an answer. I want somebody to contact me.
5 That was one issue.

6 And, please, listen to us about getting -- I
7 know you want to rush me. I waited all night to
8 ask. Please, I want you to do something about
9 the security. My daughters cry every night.
10 They refuse to do sports. They cry about all
11 their friends that died and got injured and
12 they're scared. All of us are scared that
13 somebody else is going to hurt our children.

14 Enough is enough. Get these metal detectors.
15 Get wands. We don't want this to happen to
16 anybody else ever again.

17 Please listen to us. We don't want to yell
18 and scream and beg you anymore. Okay?

19 Please.

20 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: So I appreciate that.
21 I have heard you. I heard everyone about metal
22 detectors.

23 We will take that back and see what we can
24 actually do to begin to get something on that
25 implemented here at the school. So, you know, I

1 think part of it is, yeah, we rely on, you know,
2 security experts, we try to look at these things
3 in ways that we can prioritize advancements to
4 create the safest environment possible, but, I
5 mean, it's clear that that's not cutting it for
6 this community. There's a whole different level
7 of trauma and grief that just won't be addressed
8 or dissipated in any way without something as
9 visible as the metal detectors.

10 That's what I'm hearing from everyone today;
11 is that correct?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes. Pretty much.

13 SUPERINTENDENT RUNCIE: All right.

14 MR. WEBSTER: Okay. We're at the end of our
15 meeting. Thank you for attending this evening
16 and thank you to our parents. Remember, if your
17 question was not addressed just e-mail
18 safety@browardschools.com.

19 Thank you and good night.

20 (Meeting was concluded at 9:10 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF BROWARD

I, Timothy R. Bass, Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Florida at Large, hereby certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings, and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes thereof.

Dated this 4th day of March, 2019, Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida.



TIMOTHY R. BASS
Court Reporter