

RESPONSE REUNIFICATION INSIGHTS



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INSPIRING WORDS

The secret of crisis management is not good vs. bad, **it's preventing the bad from getting worse.**

Andy Gilman

ORANGEBURG COUNTY



PREPARATION

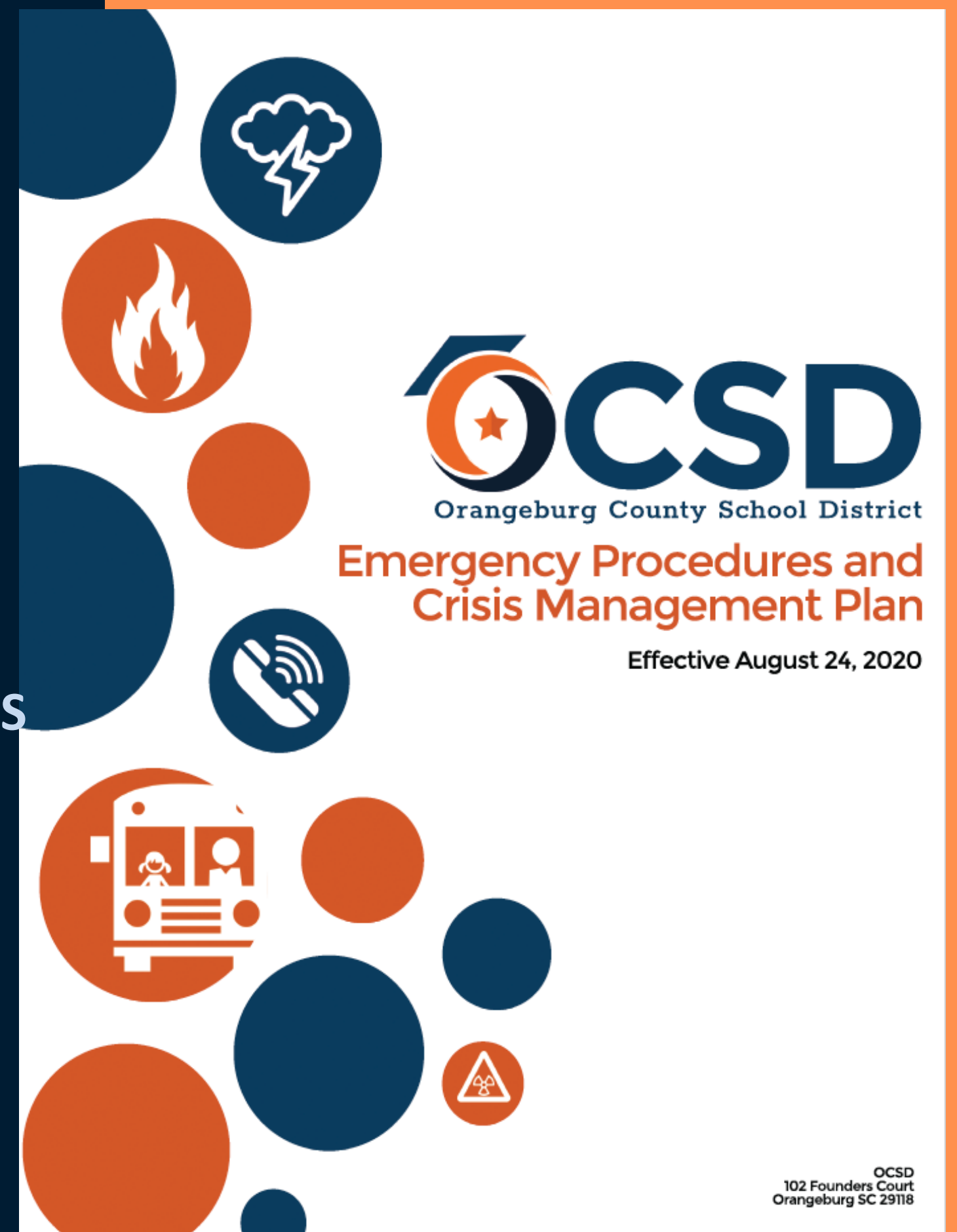
“PREPARE THE UMBRELLA BEFORE IT RAINS.”
-MALAY PROVERB

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS

LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY SVCS ROUNDTABLES

ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILLS & DEBRIEFINGS

TRAINING FOR ADMINISTRATORS (STOP THE BLEED)



JUNE 8, 2021
12:08 PM

STOP THE BLEED
TRAINING



LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY



AUGUST 18, 2021

THIRD DAY OF 21-22 SCHOOL YEAR

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

THREE VICTIMS



71 DAYS, 2 HOURS, 50 MINUTES
DISTRICT-WIDE ADMIN TRAINING

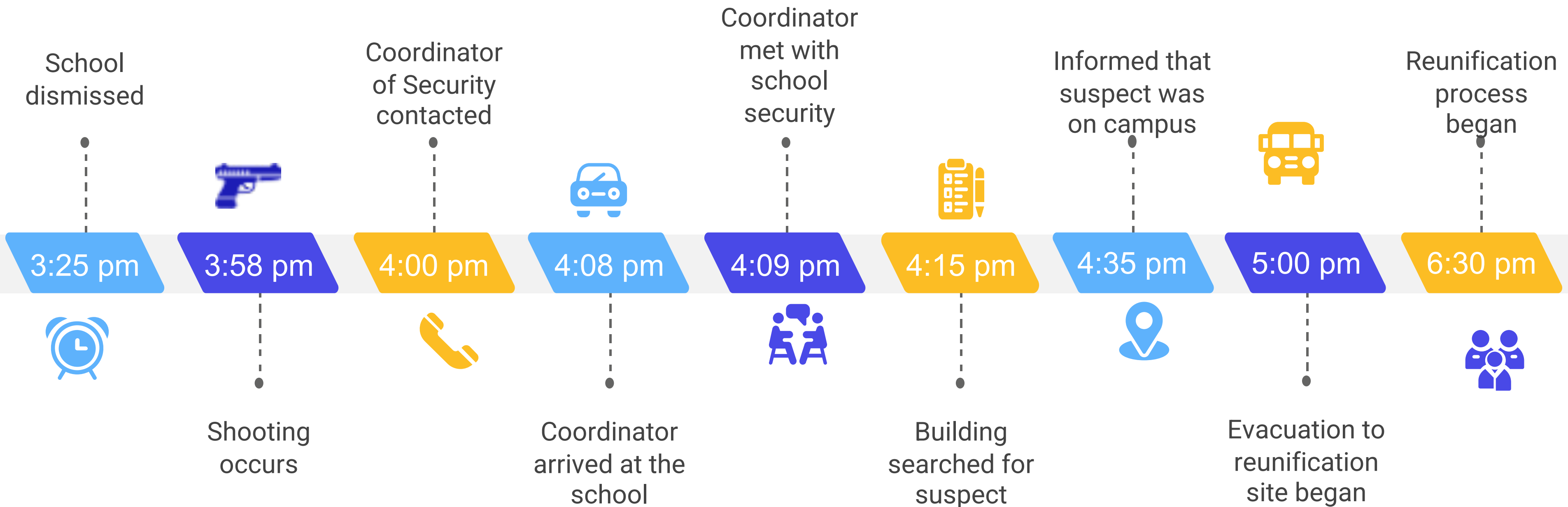
7 DAYS, 4 HOURS, 22 MINUTES
SCHOOL-LEVEL STAFF TRAINING

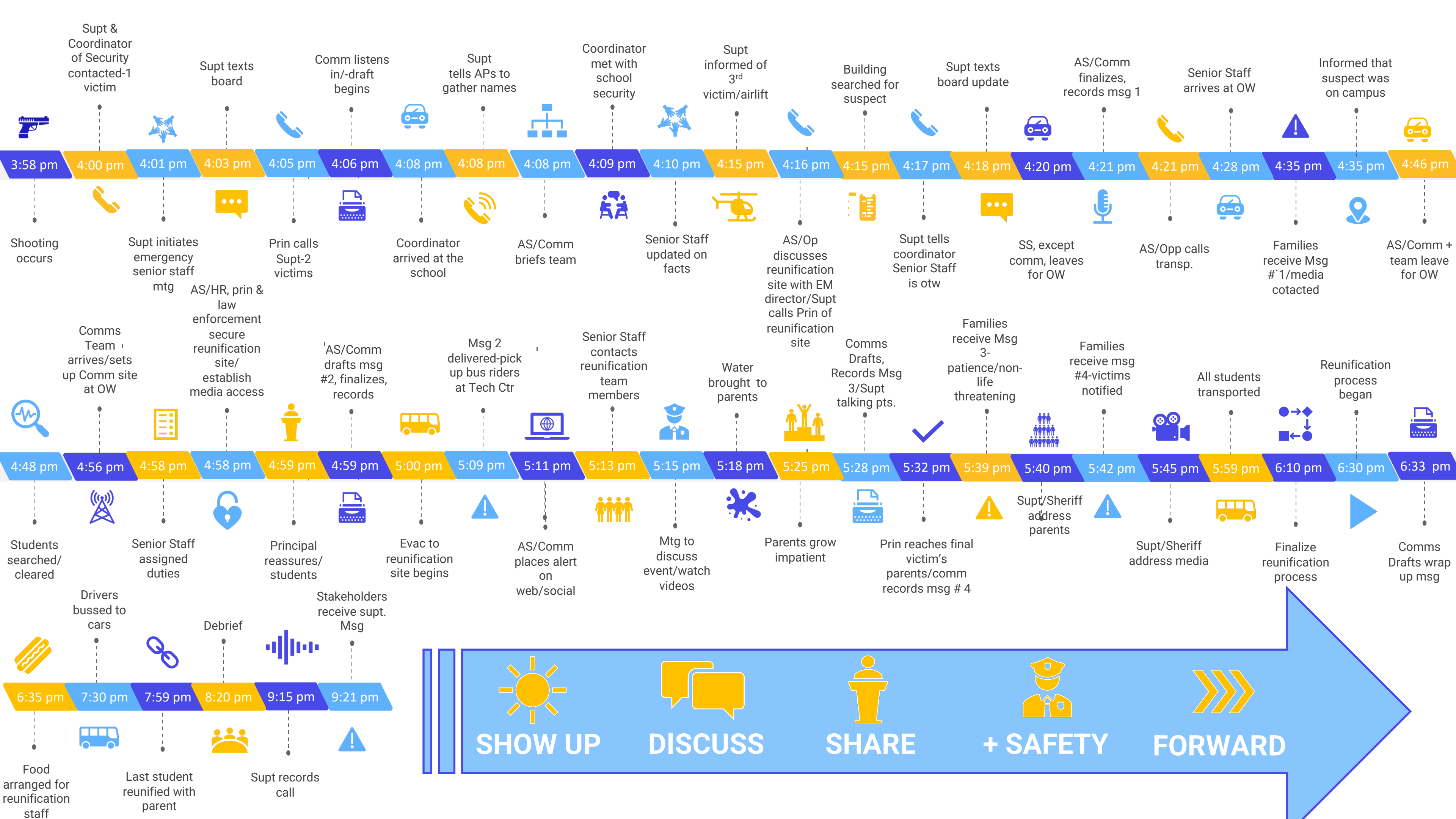




WE ARE **ONE**

INCIDENT TIMELINE







CRISIS EMERGENCY RISK COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Be First.**
- 2. Be Right.**
- 3. Be Credible.**
- 4. Express Empathy.**
- 5. Promote Action.**
- 6. Show Respect.**

BE FIRST & BE RIGHT

8 UPDATES: 4:35-9:21 PM

ESTABLISHED DISTRICT AS
INFORMATION SOURCE



FIRST MESSAGE: 4:35 PM (37 mins later)

empathy facts updates safety

Three Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School students have sustained injuries resulting from gunshots fired from a vehicle driving by during afternoon dismissal.

Law enforcement is on the campus of Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School at this time. All students have been secured inside the school building.

An alternative dismissal location and other information will be shared with students and families as soon as it is available.

We understand how upsetting and worrisome this information is, and we thank you for your patience and understanding as we prioritize safety. Additional communications will be shared as soon as possible.

BE CREDIBLE & EMPATHETIC

DELIVERED UPDATES AS QUICKLY
AS AVAILABLE TO DIRECT IMPACTS

Evacuation Location

What to bring for reunification

Students accounted for, victims families notified

Update on injuries

Apology on reunification length – Supt. visit; water

School status for the next day



TRANSPARENT & THOUGHTFUL



Important Message

INFORMATION RELATED TO ORANGEBURG-WILKINSON HIGH SCHOOL TRAGEDY

Information regarding the tragic situation at OW this afternoon is being shared directly with OW parents, students, and staff. After updates are shared first with those most closely impacted, the same is posted on [OW's website](#) as an alert. The information is updated regularly.

We thank our entire school community for their continued patience and prayers as we work together with law enforcement to reunify students with their families while ensuring their safety.

REUNIFICATION

5PM: loaded buses to evacuate

6:30PM: began reunifying

7:59PM: 308 students safely reunified



Today our school community experienced the day that we've worked hand in hand with law enforcement to prepare for, but have always prayed would never actually happen.

As many are now aware, during afternoon dismissal at Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School three students sustained injuries from gunshots fired outside. The injured students are in stable condition at this time. We join their families, teachers and our entire community in continued prayer for their full recovery.

We appreciate the quick action of school administration, teachers, and staff in moving all students to a safe location inside the school, while law enforcement secured the campus and first responders cared for the victims. Although the investigation is ongoing, law enforcement has apprehended a suspect believed to be responsible.

Families of all students have been updated as quickly as new information has become available, including details regarding the safe reunification for students with their parents and guardians. 

We understand how upsetting today's tragic events have been for all, including those who are staying updated on this situation from afar, but most especially those closest to today's tragedy.

Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School will be closed to students for the remainder of the week, which includes all after school activities and athletic practices. Teachers and staff will report to work tomorrow as scheduled.

Throughout the remainder of the week, in person and remote counseling resources will be made available to Orangeburg-Wilkinson's students, staff and families as we recover together and heal from such a tragic afternoon. In-person counseling for teachers and staff will take place at OW. Students and families who would benefit from in-person counseling will be served at the Technology Center, located at 3721 Magnolia Street.

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INSPIRING WORDS

“Sometimes the bravest and most important thing you can do is **just show up.**”

-BRENE BROWN

SHOW RESPECT

Acknowledge Fears

Demonstrate Confidence

Implement Safeguards

Open the Doors



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INSPIRING WORDS

“Most leaders would agree that they'd be better off having an average strategy with superb execution than a superb strategy with poor execution.”

-STEPHEN COVEY



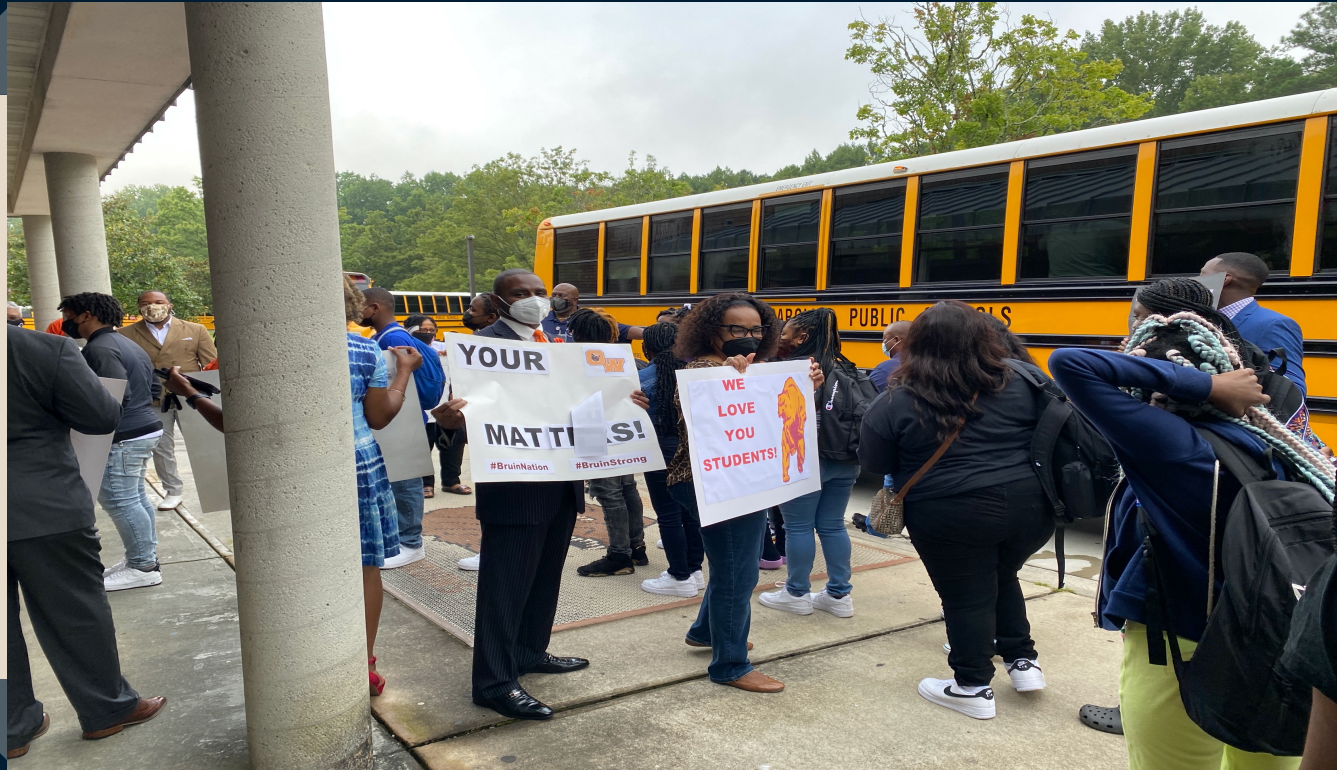
WE ARE **ONE**

“

INSPIRING WORDS

Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.

Henry Ford

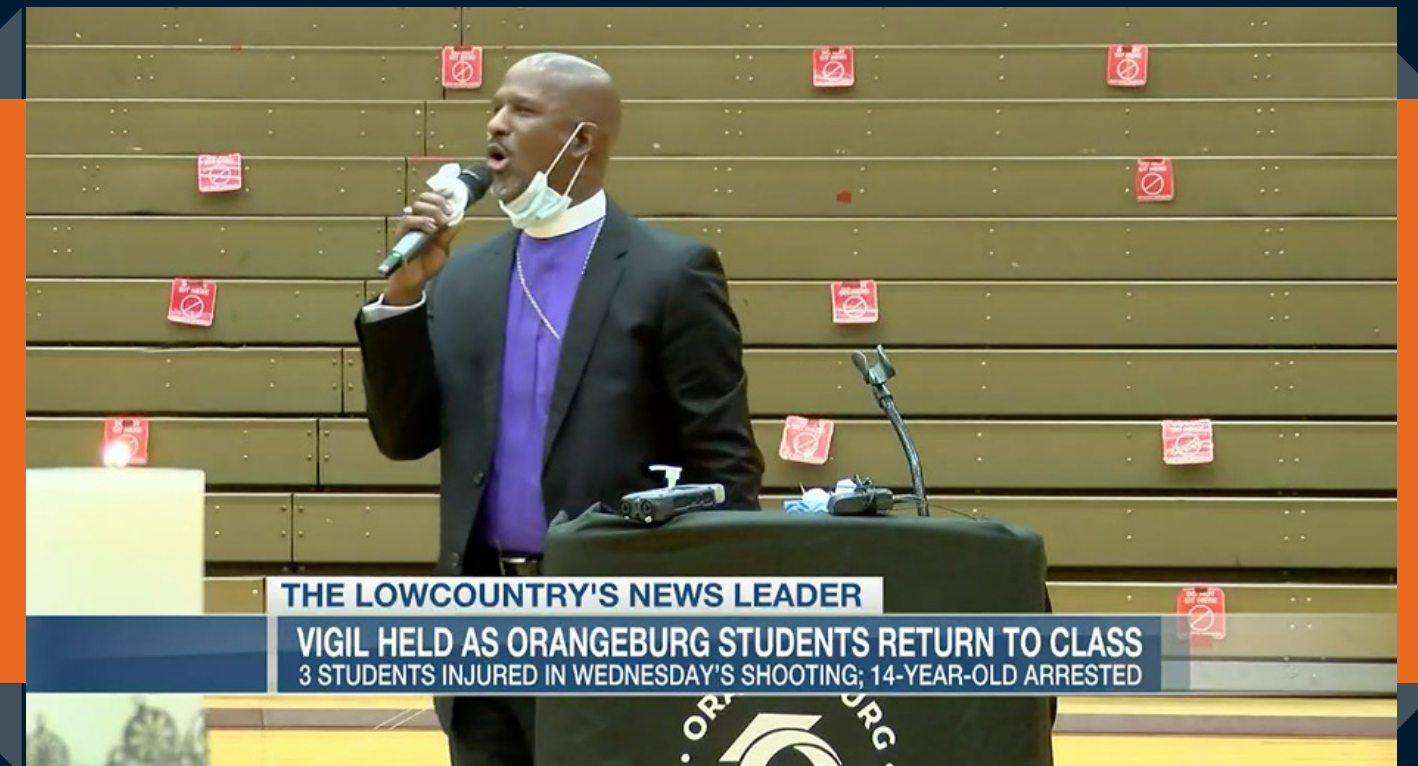


PROMOTE ACTION

Community invited to deliver tips on incident.

PRAY & SHOW UP FOR STUDENTS, STAFF

Faith leaders prayer vigil Sunday & community welcome back on Monday.



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INSPIRING WORDS

“The comeback is always stronger than the setback.”

Anonymous



WE ARE **ONE**



LESSONS LEARNED

- Communication is key
- Accuracy is more important than speed
- Everyone can have a role
- Debriefing is vital to correct deficiencies
- Drills must be varied
- IDs are necessary for all students
- Help everyone to understand their role before, during and after an event

IMPROVEMENTS & TAKEAWAYS



PLANNING DRILLS AROUND
INCONVENIENT TIMES

ANNUAL STOP THE BLEED
TRAINING

FREQUENT MEETINGS WITH
ALL EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

STAFF PRACTICING ROLES IS
IMPORTANT-NOT JUST HOW
THEY REACT

This is the first screen of the mobile application. It features a teal header with the title "Student Reunification Information Form". Below the header, there is a paragraph of instructions: "Information should be completed by the student upon arriving at a reunification site. Younger students will need an adult to help them complete the form." A green message bubble contains the text "Hi, Robert. When you submit this form, the owner will see your name and email address." A legend indicates that an asterisk (*) denotes a required field. The first question is "1. First Name *", followed by a text input field with the placeholder "Enter your answer".This is the second screen of the mobile application. It displays the question "4. Your Home School *". Below the question is a list of school names, each preceded by a radio button. The schools listed are: Bethune-Bowman Elementary, Bethune-Bowman Middle/High, Branchville High, Brookdale Elementary, Carver-Edisto Middle, Dover Elementary, Edisto Elementary, Edisto High, Edisto Primary, and Ellore Elementary.This is the third screen of the mobile application. It displays the question "5. Parent's Name *", followed by a text input field with the placeholder "Enter your answer". Below this is the question "6. Parent's Phone Number *", followed by another text input field with the placeholder "Enter your answer".

ELECTRONIC REUNIFICATION
FORM

This is the fourth screen of the mobile application. It displays the question "7. Room you are currently located in *", followed by a text input field with the placeholder "Enter your answer". Below this is the question "8. Do you need medical or mental health assistance? *", followed by another text input field with the placeholder "Enter your answer". At the bottom of the screen is a teal "Submit" button.



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