



PARKLAND

The Final Report

IMPORTANT NOTE: All findings below are drawn directly from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission Final Report. The following learning points are not intended to criticize past performance, but rather are intended to stimulate thought and prevent future violence.

Key Learning Points

Physical Security

- Nikolas Cruz entered the campus via an open, unlocked gate
- Cruz was recognized by security personnel but was not immediately confronted
- Cruz was seen carrying a rifle case and was known to be a former student
- Entrance doors to Building 12 were unlocked
- Interior classroom doors in Building 12 could only be locked/unlocked from the outside

Training and Procedures

- No official active assailant procedure existed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas HS
- Teachers had VERY limited training in relation to active assailants
- Students had NO training in relation to active assailants
- Cruz only fired through doors and windows and only shot those in his direct line of sight
- Only two classrooms in Building 12 had demarcated "Safety Triangles" (hard corners) identified, and both of these safety areas were rendered unusable due to clutter
- No classrooms had window coverings
- Teachers and students perished because they did not know how to effectively respond to an active assailant incident

The Threat Assessment & Downward Spiral

- Cruz exhibited numerous warning signs and was subjected to a threat assessment
- The threat assessment was led by an inexperienced administrator and was "bungled"
- Threat assessments should be conducted by experienced, knowledgeable administrators and law enforcement professionals
- Cruz was provided incorrect information about his special education status, which fueled his grievance

Learning from Mistakes

- Information sharing between Broward County Public Schools and the Broward Sheriff's Office did not take place due to fears of violating FERPA
- Broward County Public Schools was far too stringent in its interpretation of FERPA and should have utilized the existing exceptions for information sharing related to health and safety
- Nikolas Cruz used a legally-purchased firearm (an AR-15 assault rifle) to commit his rampage
- Local law enforcement was incompetent in handling reports of threats made by Cruz
- Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School had no effective PA system and the first "Code Red" alert was made nearly 3 ½ minutes after the shooting began

To learn more about school safety and knowledge-based training solutions for educators and students, contact us directly at Info@SafeKidsInc.com