

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. fax	From John F. Scullin re: students (partial) (1 page)	12/10/99	P6/b(6)
001b. fax	From Cumberland High re: Parent (partial) (1 page)	12/10/99	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Ruby Shamir (Subject Files)
OA/Box Number: 20364

FOLDER TITLE:

Youth Violence/HRC Rhode Island Event/12-13-99 [2]

2012-0565-S

ry1271

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

eric
62581

**PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION**

TALKING POINTS BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE
SHEA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL FORUM ON SCHOOL VIOLENCE

Friday, June 11, 1999

- Two months ago, I was in Littleton, Colorado, where I met the parents of the children who were brutally slain at Columbine High School. On that day, I embraced the families of all those who died. As long as I live, I will never forget the words one father said to me. He whispered in my ear: "These children cannot have died in vain. We have to make changes. Promise me we'll make changes."
- As shocking as Columbine was and as deeply it wounded the American soul – it's even more shocking when threats of violence happen in your own community. Here in Pawtucket, there was even a bomb threat at Tolman High School. I know that some students have been afraid to go to school – wondering if it can happen here.
- Like you, I respond to these tragedies not as Vice President, but as a parent of four children.
- The right question is not "who's to blame?" The right question is, what are we going to do about it? In a moment, we will hear from local officials, who will talk about steps they are taking to prevent incidents from happening here. Let me talk more broadly for a moment.
- There are no easy answers. I think policies like the zero tolerance policy here in Pawtucket are a step in the right direction. Your policy forbidding students to possess any weapons, replicas of weapons, or "instruments capable of...bodily harm on school grounds" is a strong message that violence will not be tolerated here.
- We may never understand why some children choose evil over good – why some act from anger or anguish, instead of reason and conscience. All I know that this is a demon we need to fight – together.
- We need to address a culture that can be too toxic, and can spread seeds of hate and violence in too many children.
- We need to focus on the kinds of counseling and services that can help children in crisis – an issue my wife Tipper has taught me a lot about. Just four days ago, we had the first-ever White House Conference on Mental Health. A first grade teacher will tell you that in the first two weeks – even at that age – we can tell which kids are troubled. We need to spot the early warning signs of violence and depression.
- We need to take more responsibility as parents, as teachers, as members of one American community. We got to talk to our children. We've got to teach them right from wrong. We've got to know what's going on in their lives.
- We need to keep guns away from those who clearly should not have them. I was proud three weeks ago to cast the tie-breaking vote in the Senate on a bill requiring a simple background check at gun shows to keep guns away from felons and fugitives – while providing no real

inconvenience on hunters and legitimate, law-abiding citizens. Now the House has a chance to go even further – and I urge them to pass tough, common-sense gun control measures into law.

- Above all, I believe that the most important solutions must come from the human heart – from our own faith and values, and the lessons we teach to our children.
- The answers will not come from Washington alone – they must come from all of us, from all of you. That is why I look forward to hearing from you today . . .

POSSIBLE SPEAKERS

Secretary Richard Riley

Senator Jack Reed

Rep. Patrick Kennedy

Rep. Weygand

Attorney General Sheldon Whitehouse

Students from Shea High School

Parents from Shea High School

Teachers from Shea High School

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS – FORUM ON SCHOOL SAFETY AND YOUTH VIOLENCE

Congressman Kennedy, since the tragedy in Littleton, you have held several meetings with Rhode Island students to discuss school violence issues. What have you learned from these conversations?

Congressman Weygand, what are you hearing from your constituents about what we can do make sure that our schools are safe?

I'd like to hear from the students here today. Last month, schools around Rhode Island were subjected to bomb threats by some who wanted to play on the fears and concerns of students and families following the Littleton tragedy, including the students at Tolman High School, the other high school here in Pawtucket. How did those threats make you feel? Do you feel safe at school?

The first people to notice when something is amiss with a student are their fellow students. The Pawtucket School District's Health and Wellness program includes an emphasis on the importance of peer mediation. Can we hear from a student about the power of positive peer pressure to resolve conflict?

As students, what do you think adults can do to identify and help students who may be "at-risk?"

Thirty years ago, we didn't see violence like is in our schools, or in our kids. Can a parent talk about the influences that they think are contributing to the growing dilemma of youth violence?

The importance of positive relationships between students and teachers can not be overstated. Is there a teacher here who can tell us how important small class sizes and small schools are for getting to know your students?

Attorney General Whitehouse, as the state's top law enforcement official, how are state officials and law enforcement working together to prevent school violence here in Rhode Island?

Secretary Riley has long been one of our top education leaders. Secretary Riley, you've been involved for quite a while in helping to create and maintain safe learning environments. Tell us about what you and the U.S. Department of Education are doing.

Senator Reed, what else can we do to ensure that our children feel secure at school, not under siege?

From the pages
of The
Providence
Journal

ALL BOXES
=

CONTENTS FEEDBACK SEARCH

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6.10.99 00:04:54

Senate passes bill toughening penalties for firearm crimes

■ Some lawmakers, however, decry the deletion of one facet of the bill.

By JONATHAN SALTZMAN
Journal State House Bureau

PROVIDENCE -- Legislation that would impose harsher penalties for gun offenses passed the Senate yesterday, even though some senators criticized the deletion of language that would ban anyone subject to a restraining order from owning or buying a gun.

By a vote of 31 to 15, the Senate approved a bill introduced at the request of Atty. Gen. Sheldon Whitehouse. The measure would, among other things, raise the maximum prison term for larceny of a firearm from 5 to 10 years.

It would also impose a mandatory prison sentence of at least 10 years for a conviction of selling firearms to a minor. The bill would also set long mandatory prison sentences for anyone convicted of carrying or shooting a firearm while committing a crime of violence.

Among the opponents was Sen. Catherine E. Graziano, D-Providence, who decried the elimination of language that would prohibit anyone under a restraining order from owning or buying a firearm. Graziano said the provision is essential in the battle against domestic violence.

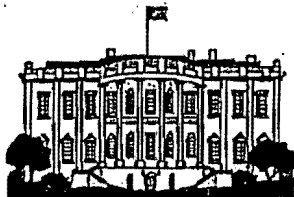
But Sen. Thomas R. Coderre, D-Pawtucket, the sponsor of the bill, said he reluctantly deleted the language after state police Supt. Edmond S. Culhane Jr. raised concerns about stripping police officers of their guns and, by extension, their jobs.

Coderre didn't want the provision to jeopardize the rest of the bill, he said. He introduced another bill yesterday that would incorporate the deleted language. He said he hoped it could be considered by the Senate before the session ends.

Add ~~Your e-mail~~ on this topic

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THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF SPEECHWRITING

Fax (202) 456-5709
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TO:

Ruby

FAX:

PHONE

6-2878

FROM:

Laura Schlitter

Comments

Date:

Number of Pages (including cover):

Copyright 1999 The Providence Journal Company
The Providence Journal-Bulletin

6-2878

May 5, 1999, Wednesday, Blackstone Valley EDITION

SECTION: NEWS, Pg. 1C

LENGTH: 646 words

HEADLINE: Tension and rumors boil over in hallways at high school

BYLINE: SUMATHI REDDY; Journal Staff Writer

BODY:

In the wake of the tragedy in Littleton, Colo., an incident at **Cumberland High School** shows just how little it takes to sow fear.

**

CUMBERLAND - More than 100 **Cumberland High School** students fearing threats of violence yesterday called their parents and went home, adding the school to the list of others struck by a wave of fear following the Littleton, Colo., school shooting.

School administrators stressed that the threats were unfounded and that students were overreacting, a natural tendency considering the tense atmosphere in schools across the nation.

The day itself, with the exception of the hype and concerns, was uneventful, Supt. Joseph Nasif Jr. said. It's a situation that mushroomed and all stemmed from a comment on a desk. Nothing else surfaced that is giving us deep concerns.

High School Principal John Scullin said it was a normal day, aside from the steady stream of students wanting to call their parents.

I'm discouraging the students to leave, Scullin said. Naturally, with the climate, the kids are upset.

The student hysteria began Monday, when a student reported seeing May 4 massacre written on a desk in a classroom in the high school. Word quickly spread through the school and eventually reached administrators, who contacted police. But by that time the words had disappeared from the desk.

The words may have been gone but the rumors continued to circulate around the school.

As an extra precaution, four police officers were on hand at the start of school yesterday, at 6:45 a.m.

But the police presence seemed to heighten an already tense atmosphere.

Though yesterday's absentee rate was normal, many students asked if they could call their parents or guardians to get permission to go home. Other students spoke with guidance counselors.

Although school officials did not encourage students to leave, about 108 out of 1,400 students left the high school before the end of the school day, Nasif said.

Holli Rodrigues, a junior at the high school, was one of them.

Rodrigues said she arrived at school and found police cars in the parking lot and police and teachers patrolling the hallways.

Upon entering the school, students told her about someone writing RMay 4 massacre. Cumberland High School beware.S

By 8:30 a.m., Rodrigues called her grandmother to get permission to drive her and her sister home.

RThe second I walked in I saw a cop and detective,S Rodrigues said. REverybody was freaking out about it. So many people went home. They didn't really want us to go home and they said they were taking precautions, but everyone was petrified.S

Police and school officials say school ran smoothly yesterday.

According to Nasif, staff members forwarded to police the names of three students who may have written the message on the desk. Police are interviewing the students and punishment Q whether a criminal charge or one meted out by the school Q may be forthcoming, Nasif said.

Nasif said that after talking with students, school officials came to the conclusion that the message came from a statement in one of the Littleton murderer's diary, which is accessible on the Internet.

RI think it was just someone who had access at home to the Internet, jotted down a comment on a desk and unfortunately did not think of the far-reaching consequences,S Nasif said.

Among the student body, however, rumors circulated about threatening banners, notes taped to the principal's door and students in ski masks warning them not to go to school.

Kyla Williams, a senior, was one of the few students who left school early, not because of the threat of violence, but because she was sick. Many of her friends, however, went home early because they were frightened.

REveryone is really upset,S Williams said. RA lot of my friends went home early. They're just scared.S

LOAD-DATE: May 7, 1999

FOCUSTM

Search: General News;Cumberland High, providence

To narrow this search, please enter a word or phrase:

Example: House of Representatives

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FACSIMILE**CONGRESSMAN****PATRICK J. KENNEDY****FIRST DISTRICT - RHODE ISLAND**DISTRICT OFFICE

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312 CANNON H.O.B
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-4911
FAX: (202) 225-3290

TO: RubyFAX NO: 202-456-5000 2878

FROM:

☐ LARRY FERGUSON
☐ PAULA GEMMA
☒ LARRY BERMAN
☐ KATHY HINCKLEY
☐ MICHAEL McCARTHY
☐ MIGUEL SYLVIA
☐ PAULA BRADLEY
☐ JACKIE DaCOSTA
☐ VINNIE MARTINO

NUMBER OF PAGES: 3

(including cover)

DATE: _____

NOTES: _____

Meet and Greet Room

Joining First Lady and co-hosts Senator Reed and Congressman Kennedy

(23 guests)

Congressional Delegation

Senator Lincoln Chafee

Congressman Bob Weygand

State Officers

Lieutenant Governor Charles Fogarty

Secretary of State James Langevin

General Treasurer Paul Tavares

Cumberland Delegation

Mayor Frank Gaschen

Town Council President David Chenevert

School Committee Chairman James Higgins

Schools Superintendent Joseph Nasif

Cumberland High School Principal John Scullin

Cumberland Police Chief Anthony Silva

Mayors/Town Administrators of Neighboring Communities Represented in Program

Mayor Lee Matthews, Central Falls

Mayor A. Ralph Mollis, North Providence

Town Administrator Daniel Andrews, North Smithfield

Town Manager Russ Marcoux, Smithfield

Cumberland High School Students

Sara Bak (will introduce First Lady)

James Tavares

Jane Rosenbaum

Chris Gaschen

Elyse Berman

Alyson Picard

Katherine Aurecchia

Heather Donaldson

Acknowledgments for the First Lady

Senator Lincoln Chafee

Congressman Bob Weygand

Cumberland Mayor Frank Gaschen

Cumberland High School Student Government President Sara Bok (introduced her)

Cumberland Schools Superintendent Joseph Nasif

Cumberland High School Principal John Scullin

Lt. Governor Charles Fogarty

Secretary of State James Langevin

General Treasurer Paul Tavares

SPEAKING PROGRAM FOR FIRST LADY'S SCHOOL VIOLENCE PROGRAM
Cumberland High School
December 13, 1999

- 1) Mayor Frank Gaschen offers brief welcome and introduces Congressman Kennedy
 - 2) Congressman Kennedy offers brief remarks and introduces Senator Reed
 - 3) Senator Reed offers brief remarks and introduces Sara Bak, president of Cumberland High School Student Government
 - 4) Sara Bak introduces First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
 - 5) First Lady offers remarks and opens the program to questions
-

Upon conclusion, Cumberland High School Principal John Scullin will announce that there is only time for one more question. He will thank the First Lady, and then after the last question, two Cumberland High students will present gifts to the First Lady. She will then shake hands with Cumberland High students along a rope-line on the way out.

CUMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL
2600 Mendon Road
Cumberland, RI 02864
Phone: 401-658-2600
Fax: 401-658-3124

TO: Brenden
Eric M.

Fax

To: Ruby Shamir

From: CHS - Main Office

Fax: 202-456-2878

Date: December 10, 1999

Phone: 401-658-2600 ext. 223

Pages: 12

Re: Background of CHS students/parents/teachers

☐ **Urgent**

☐ **For Review**

☐ **Please Comment**

☐ **Please Reply**

☐ **Please Recycle**

•Comments:



Cumberland High School

2600 MENDON ROAD • CUMBERLAND, RHODE ISLAND 02864-3498
TEL (401) 658-2600
FAX (401) 658-3124

PRINCIPAL
John F. Scullin

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS
John B. Jones
Carolyn J. Murphy

Cumberland High School is as vulnerable to violence as any high school.

Last spring (May 1999) we received a bomb threat during the school day which required us to evacuate to the Athletic Field across the street. Since then we have received a bomb threat during a school vacation requiring a search of the building and grounds. During the spring there were also rumors of a hit list and massacre which were unnerving to staff, students and parents.

In addition, we experience the isolated instances of student aggression that are common to high schools. While peer mediation has been successful at addressing this issue, we still find ourselves with the occasional fight or assault. Also very helpful has been our partnership with the local police department which has seen the establishment of a student hotline. The hotline became very active last spring when tensions around the country were high. In the near future we will have a full-time SRO (School Resource Officer) at the high school which is also an important aspect of our program. Incidents of alcohol and substance abuse are as much a part of student life here as anywhere as are the problems which stem from them.

Any of the students on the following pages can speak to issues of violence and diversity—especially those so designated.

John Scullin
Principal

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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Cumberland High School

2600 Mendon Road
Cumberland, RI 02864
401.658.2600
Fax No. 401.658.3124

Date: 12/10/99

From: John F. Scullin, Principal

Students to meet or present gifts to Mrs. Clinton on Monday, December 13, 1999

Sara A. Bak, Student Government President – Introduce and meet the First Lady
(Bio attached)

P6(b)(6)

[001a]

James Tavares – meeting the First Lady

P6(b)(6)

Jane Rosenbaum – meeting the First Lady

P6(b)(6)

Kyle LaBranche – will be presenting a mug and sweatshirt

P6(b)(6)

Melissa Cutler, FBLA President – present gifts

P6(b)(6)

12/10/99

~~Confidential~~

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ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
INITIALS: Ry DATE: 7/27/12

1

Cumberland High School

2600 Mendon Road

Cumberland, Rhode Island 02864

TO: Mrs. Hillary Rodham-Clinton, First Lady

FROM: John F. Scullin, Principal

RE: Forum scheduled at Cumberland High School,
Monday, December 13, 1999 – 1:30 PM

DATE: December 10, 1999

The following students, parents and teachers whom Mrs. Clinton may want to recognize as valuable contributors to Cumberland High School and the community.

Students

Sara Bak – Gr. 12

Community Service Student Government President
Project Coordinator to the students for the following community projects: House of Compassion, Food Baskets, Blood Drive, Dress-Down Days, Winter Coat Drive, Make-A-Wish, Habitat for Humanity, Environmental Projects

Tony Rodrigues – Gr. 12

Community Service Tony's focus has been on the House of Compassion though he does so many other things. Tony for the past three summers has spent 3 hours every Wednesday working on the grounds at the House of Compassion and in the spring and fall every Thursday working on the grounds. Tony recently won a Feinstein Scholarship; as part of the award Tony will donate a \$1,000 to the House of Compassion.

Diana Pinzon – Gr. 12

Violence Diana for past three years has directed our Adopt-A-Family program. After finding a family in need, Diana organizes the student government members into teams to provide each child and grown-up

in the family with a complete Christmas. A full Christmas meal and some cash is provided.

Jennifer Fonseca – Gr. 11

Community Service

Service Learning Advisory member;
Coordinator for Project Gift—150 gift bags are being assembled to give to teens in shelters in Rhode Island.
One of the 13 students in Rhode Island selected to be on the Rhode Island Philanthropy Board

Joanna Wrobel and Kyle LaBranche – Gr. 12

Violence

Service Learning Advisory Council Members
Coordinators for Project Ribbon—A ribbon that will be over a mile long will encircle CHS and the House of Compassion on March 17th. The ribbon will be made of yard long panels of cloth tied together. Each panel will depict freedom and acceptance to the individual decorating it. Individuals from across the country will join in this celebration, as it will occur during the National Service Learning Conference. The ribbon will show the connection that has been made between CHS and the House of Compassion as a result of last year's award-winning play, *Spirit of Compassion*.

Ellen Farrell – Gr. 12

Diversity

Has a service learning internship in Steve Tanazio's second grade class at John J. McLaughlin/Cumberland Hill School
She is a regular contributor with her own column on CHS to a local newspaper, *The Valley Breeze*
Received an acting award for her portrayal of Jane, a young mother with two children, who had AIDS and was a former resident of the House of Compassion

Aaron Andrade, 1999 Graduate

Diversity

Wrote an impassioned monologue, "Learn for Liberty," for the role of Frederick Douglass for last year's *Spirit of Compassion* play
Received an acting award for his portrayal of Frederick Douglass in last year's *Spirit of Compassion* play
Reflected upon the experience of his work with the last year's *Spirit of Compassion*. At a post-production discussion after the last performance of *Spirit of Compassion*, Aaron reflected on how being a

person of color at CHS had contributed to his involvement with the play and how he was enriched because of his involvement.

Chris Gaschen – Gr. 11

Diversity

Involved in the Service Learning Program.

Peer Mediation Aide for 3 years

He is currently interested in pursuing a political career.

Will discuss the "Youth Pride" Conference he attended last year and which we will be attending again on January 13th.

Shawn Lawton – Gr. 11

Student conflict

CHS Hockey Team member

especially very

Active in the Peer Mediation Program

young elementary

Planning to attend college

Will discuss experiences from his visit to B.F. Norton Elementary School as peer mediator speaker to the 5th grade class.

Leah Marsh – Gr. 12

Violence

Has been involved in the Peer Mediation Program for 3 years

Planning to attend college

Will discuss changes that have taken place in the program during her tenure as a mediator

William Steve Kiesel – Gr. 11

Violence

CHS Wrestling Team member

Has been involved in the Peer Mediation Program for 3 years

Chris Gaschen

Last year 6 members of the mediation team attended the NCCJ Youth Pride Conference. This event consisted of students from both public and private schools, brought together to discuss youth pride and diversity issues. At the seminar we, as mediators, were asked to come up with a program that would bring together all the different groups of students at CHS. We were challenged to create an ethnic and socially diverse atmosphere where we could learn from one another. After a couple of hours we came up with a coffee house where different groups could come together to have fun. The greatest thing about "Jave Jam" is no matter how well you perform everyone respects each other's efforts.

We will be attending the conference again on January 13. We want to tackle diversity issues through a Diversity Council currently under development. In the spring we would like to host a "Culture Fair" drawing participants from the student body and the larger community in our town.

We consider "Java Jam" a success and with the support of the school community we hope to continue these successes into the future.

MEMO

To: File

From: Nancy

Date: December 10, 1999

RE: Agenda for Cumberland High School Discussion with First Lady Hillary Clinton

Monday, December 13, 1999

- 1:15 pm Expected arrival time for invited dignitaries to First Lady's holding room
(See enclosed list)
- 1:30 pm General public time of arrival including high school students & local officials from
Blackstone Valley communities: Cumberland, Burrillville, Central Falls, Lincoln,
North Providence, North Smithfield, Pawtucket, Smithfield, & Woonsocket)
- 1:45 pm Pre-program with musical entertainment begins
- 2:00 pm First Lady, Sen. Reed and Cong. Kennedy expected to arrive and meet dignitaries
in holding room
- 2:15 pm Program begins (reverse town meeting format)
- Welcome by Mayor Frank Gaschen (1 minute)
- Remarks by Cong. Patrick Kennedy (2-3 minutes)
- Remarks by Sen. Jack Reed (2-3 minutes) and introduction of student
- Introduction of First Lady by Sarah Bak, President of Cumberland High School
Student Council (1 minute)
- Remarks by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton (5-6 minutes)
- First Lady with Sen. Reed and Cong. Kennedy ask questions of the audience
- 3:10 pm Closing remarks and Cumberland High School presentation to the First Lady
- 3:15 pm Program ends

Invited and Confirmed Dignitaries - Monday, December 13, 1999**State Officers**

Lieutenant Governor Charles J. Fogarty

Secretary of State James Langevin

General Treasurer Paul Tavares

Congressional Delegation

Senator Lincoln D. Chafee

Congressman Robert Weygand

Mayors/Town Administrators

Mayor Frank Gaschen, Cumberland

Mayor Lee Matthews, Central Falls

Mayor A. Ralph Mollis, North Providence

Town Administrator Daniel Andrews, North Smithfield

Town Manager Russ Marcoux, Smithfield

as of 5:00 pm

Facsimile from Senator Jack Reed's Office

201 Hillside Road, Suite 200
Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 943-3100 Fax: (401) 464-6837

Date: 12/10/99

To: Robert Spamer

Office: _____

Fax Number: 202-456-2878

Number of pages: c+ 2

Original to follow in the mail: yes no

From:

____ Senator Jack Reed

____ Lynne M. Lombardi

____ Norelys R. Consuegra

____ Robert Gousie

____ Dennis Riley

____ Nancy Melo

____ Other: _____

____ Raymond D. Simone

____ Kathryn Hanson

____ Cheryl A. Ward

____ Brenda M. Pacheco

____ Nancy L. Langrall

____ Mary Ellen Rodgers

Remarks: Per ...

Shaun Lawton

When I went to B.F Norton I met a child who felt very afraid and that there was no way out for him. He was afraid to walk down the street and most importantly he was afraid to come to school. Every day he went to school and was beat up. When I went in to talk about antiviolenace he rebelled against me. He made fun of everything I said except when I told him that we would help them through all of their problems. He told me that there was no way out, that I couldn't do anything. When I looked into his eyes and saw that fear I knew that something had to be done. That changed my role as a peer mediator. If school violence is that important that a 10 year old child has to act like he is 20 then something must be done. So I want to push to introduce this program into the middle schools and the elementary levels. We must realize as we enter the 21st century that violence isn't always in just the high schools. It happens between the first and twelfth grades. Children are growing up quicker and its not all about baby dolls and GI Joes anymore. They are no longer as innocent as they used to be.

Lea Marsh

I became a mediator two years ago. When I started, there were between fifteen and twenty mediators. There were very few boys interested in the program. Now there are approximately fifty mediators and the ratio of girls to boys is about equal.

Mediation started out as a group of students trying to stop conflict between other students. It involved sessions in which a male and female mediator sat the students in conflict down, and tried to resolve the problem. When I started, mediation consisted only of two days of training and these sessions. Many of the mediators didn't know each other and didn't get a chance to compare notes or discuss how to handle a tough session. Now two years later peer mediation has it's own homeroom where the mediators meet every morning. We have a chance to get to know each other and can learn from each others experiences. Also, we have expanded from more than just sessions to include an array of activities that are beneficial to students.

We have a diversity council, where we recognize the ethnic and cultural diversity of our school. We have an after school coffee house, the "Java Jam," that any student, parent or friend can come to relax, socialize, or perform on stage. This gives students an outlet to express their many talents that they may not be able to show off anywhere else.

There are other activities in which mediators have contact with elementary and middle school students. We feel this program now does more than just makes our school a little safer, it also enriches the lives of students and our community.

Teachers

Mrs. Jeanne Caires – Special Education Teacher, Peer-Mediation Coordinator

- 6 years – Elementary with behaviorally disordered students ages 5 – 12
- 9 years – Secondary resource teacher grades 9 – 12
- 5 years – Self-Contained Alternative Learning Program grades 9 – 12
- Current – Secondary Resource grades 9 – 12

Began the mediation program 7 years ago. My training in college was in working with behaviorally disordered youth. After observing the initial training which we purchased, Linda Mantovani, the student assistance counselor and I conduct training for students every fall.

I work closely with Jim Wilbur, our liaison with the Cumberland Police. He is an integral part of our "Java Jam" coffee house.

Our team has tried to respond to the issues affecting our school each year. We put on a play dealing with pre-prom activities. We worked with the Police and the Rape Crisis Center to conduct a series of seminars dealing with date rape and sexual harassment. Currently, we are trying to address diversity issues.

Mrs. Laura Riggs-Mitchell – Home Economics Teacher, Service Learning Coordinator

Laura Riggs-Mitchell is the Service Learning Coordinator for Cumberland High School. She has a Masters degree in Home Economics Education and teaches Family and Consumer Sciences and English at Cumberland High School. She is a former recipient of the Rhode Island Home Economics Teacher of the Year and a finalist for National Home Economics Teacher of the Year. She was accepted into Phi Kappa Phi and Omicron Nu, scholastic fraternities. Six years ago, she initiated a service learning component in a Family and Consumer Sciences' Child Development class. That service learning component continues to be successful today. Part of her role as service learning coordinator is to administer two grants: Rhode Island Learn and Serve and Feinstein Foundation. Last year, Ms. Riggs-Mitchell served on the committee for Rhode Island Department of Education's Strategic Plan Action Planning Group for "...facilitation of partnerships with schools and businesses..." Currently, she is on the committee established by the Rhode Island Commission for National and Community Service that is developing an evaluation "tool kit" for service learning. Ms. Riggs-Mitchell facilitated a service learning workshop for teachers at her school last summer.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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FOLDER TITLE:

Youth Violence/HRC Rhode Island Event/12-13-99 [2]

2012-0565-S

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Parent

Helena Sun — Parent, CHS Parent Advisor Council, Chairperson, Senior Class Advisor

Mrs. Helena (Woo) Sun was born on [REDACTED] P6(b)(6) on the British Island colony of Hong Kong. After her primary and secondary education, Mrs. Sun traveled to England at the age of 18 to begin her studies in the field of nursing. After receiving her nursing certificate, Mrs. Sun immigrated to the Canadian province of British Columbia in 1972 with her family. [00116]

While living and working in British Columbia, Mrs. Sun met Mr. Joshua C. Sun and the two were married in 1977. Mr. Sun is currently a medical doctor in the field of pediatrics. The couple moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada soon after their marriage. On January 22nd, 1980, their first son, Abraham Joshua, was born. Abraham is a graduate of the CHS Class of 1997 and is currently in his junior year at Bentley College in Waltham, Massachusetts. He is studying for both his bachelor and master's degrees in the field of International Culture and Economics.

Soon, after the birth of their first son, Dr. and Mrs. Sun immigrated to Newark, New Jersey. Two years later, Mrs. Sun gave birth to their second son, Jonathan Joseph. Jonathan is currently finishing his senior year of studies at CHS. He plans on entering college next year in the field of sports management.

After the birth of Jonathan, the Sun's spent the latter years of the decade throughout the Midwest of both the United States and Canada. However, in 1990, the family decided it was time to return back East and the family established a home in the town of Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Since receiving her nursing certificate in 1972, Mrs. Sun has been a full-time Registered Nurse. She has established herself as a team member in both Intensive / Coronary Care Units and the Operating Room. At present, she is a full-time nurse in the Operating Room of the Miriam Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island.

Throughout this time period, Mrs. Sun has remained thoroughly and vigilantly dedicated to her children and the environment they have grown up in. In 1994, Mrs. Sun, along with the help of former CHS Principal Rose Marie Cipriano, created the school's first Parent Advisory Council, with her being asked to be its first and current chair. Additionally, Mrs. Sun volunteered her assistance in becoming the Class of 2000 Freshman Year Student Government Advisor in 1996. She is proud to announce that as the Class of 2000 Senior Year Advisor, she has had a most successful group of students, with over 300 pupils graduating.

Colleen Scanlan, Administrator of House of Compassion—
A home for terminally ill Aids patients which has a close
relationship with Cumberland High School

BIOGRAPHY OF COLLEEN SCANLAN

SINGLE PARENT OF A 12 YEAR SON

UNDERGRAD AND GRADUATE WORK AT PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

HELPED TO DEVELOP BETTER APATHY LAWS FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE STATE OF
RI
INSTITUTED THE 1ST HALFWAY HOUSE FOR WOMEN WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN THE
STATE OF RI

1994-FOUNDED THE HOUSE OF COMPASSION- WHICH HOUSES PEOPLE WITH AIDS .
OVERCOMING MANY OBSTACLES, BOTH LEGAL AND NEIGHBORLY
ALSO HAS SATELLITE APARTMENTS, EDUCATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS,
FOOD AND FURNITURE BANK, OUTREACH WORK, WORK WITH LOCAL POLICE DEPTS.
LOCAL COURTS, LOCAL JUVENILE PROGRAMS. DEVELOP COMMUNITY SERVICE
WORK WITH SCHOOLS. WHERE THE CHILDREN LEARN THE POSITIVE VALUE OF
HELPING OTHERS AND IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY.

MAIN PURPOSE OF HOUSE IS TO MAKE SURE PEOPLE DIE WITH DIGNITY AND NOT
ALONE

HAS HAD HOSPICE TRAINING AND AIDS TRAINING

CUMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL
2600 Mendon Road
Cumberland, RI 02864
Phone: 658-2600
Fax: 658-3124

TO Brenda
62239
Eric M.
62581

Fax

To: Ruby Shamir

From: CHS - Main Office

Fax: 202-456-2878

Date: December 10, 1999

Phone: 658-2600 ext. 223

Pages: 6

Re: Profile of Cumberland High School

CC:

☐ Urgent

☐ For Review

☐ Please Comment

☐ Please Reply

☐ Please Recycle

•Comments:



CUMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Principal

John F. Scullin

Assistant Principals

John B. Jones
Carolyn J. Murphy

2600 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island 02864-3498
Telephone (401) 658-2600
FAX (401) 658-3124

Guidance Counselors

Edward Spalding,
Chairperson
Amilee K. Bianco
Patricia J. Boyle
Donna M. Ferguson
Lisa DeMaria Mayne
Roger A. Roy

School Profile for 1999-2000

School

Comprehensive 4 year public high school
Enrollment: 1400
1999 Graduating Class: 316
Teacher/Student Ratio: 1:20

CEEB Code Number: 400037
Accreditation: New England Association of
College and Secondary Schools
School Year: 2 semesters

Community

Cumberland is an upper middle income suburban community of 31,000 residents located in the northeastern corner of Rhode Island. Its population is heterogeneous with a large proportion of business and professional families as well as blue collar workers. Because of its fine educational system, Cumberland attracts families from all over the northeast.

National Merit Scholarship Results

	<u>Commended</u>	<u>Semi Finalists</u>	<u>Scholars</u>
Class of 1999	3	1	1
Class of 1998	4	3	0
Class of 1997	7	2	2

Scholastic Aptitude Test Scores (SAT)

	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
Class of:					
% Taking	62%	65%	76%	74%	74%
SAT Verbal	525	528	536	533	508
SAT Math	534	538	532	531	512

Post Secondary Statistics

	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
Class of:					
4 year college	51%	53%	57%	59%	58%
2 year college	27%	22%	17%	21%	13%
Other schools	5%	7%	8%	8%	7%
Further Education	83%	82%	82%	88%	78%

Advanced Placement Program

	Students	Tests	Scores					% Scoring 3 or higher	AP Scholars
			5	4	3	2	1		
1998-99	72	98	7	20	28	28	15	56%	5
1997-98	35	52	8	18	16	10	0	81%	
1996-97	22	26	4	6	12	3	1	84%	

Graduation Requirements

Students must earn at least 20 credits to graduate. The credits must include:

English:	4
Social Studies:	3
Science:	3 for College Preparatory and (2) for all others
Mathematics:	3 for College Preparatory and (2) for all others
Foreign Language:	2 for College Preparatory
Physical Education:	2

Students enrolled in College Preparatory, Business Education, or Industrial Technologies Studies must select additional specific courses to qualify for that program.

CurriculumProgram Offerings

College Preparatory
Business
Industrial Technological Studies
General

Levels of Placement

Honors (H) or Advanced Placement (AP)
Enriched (E)
General (G)
Fundamental (F)

Early Enrollment (EEP) - Rhode Island College offers college credit for several of our advanced courses.
Advanced Placement (AP) - Mathematics, Science, English, and Foreign Language

Class Rank and Grading System

Grading Scale		Weighted Points by Curriculum for Class Rank			
	Quality Points	Honors	Enriched	General	Fundamental
A+ = (97 - 100)	4.3	5.16	4.73	4.30	3.44
A = (94 - 96)	4.0	4.80	4.40	4.00	3.20
A- = (90 - 93)	3.7	4.44	4.07	3.70	2.96
B+ = (87 - 89)	3.3	3.96	3.63	3.30	2.64
B = (84 - 86)	3.0	3.60	3.30	3.00	2.40
B- = (80 - 83)	2.7	3.24	2.97	2.70	2.16
C+ = (77 - 79)	2.3	2.76	2.53	2.30	1.84
C = (74 - 76)	2.0	2.40	2.20	2.00	1.60
C- = (71 - 73)	1.7	2.04	1.87	1.70	1.36
D = (70)	1.5	1.80	1.65	1.50	1.20
F = (0 - 69)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
P =	2.0	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
SS = (71)	1.7	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.36

(SS) Summer School - Make-up is permitted if failure is 60 or above.

CLASS RANK: Rank in class is weighted on the basis of curriculum difficulty.

GPA: GPA is unweighted.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY REPORT **BY**

James Aissis
Lidia Dennen
Suzanne Frechette
Thomas Gray

Christine Johnson
John Scullin
Michael Stoukides
Janet Tudino

Enrollment at Cumberland High School stabilized during the period from 1982 to 1992 and at the present time is increasing, reflecting projected Rhode Island statistical data on school enrollment.

The ethnic composition of the student body at Cumberland High School has not changed significantly over the last ten years.

- The town is 97.5% white.
- Hispanics now make up 1.5% of the population.
- Blacks and other races make up only 1% of the population.
- Most of the students requiring the services of E.S.L. continue to be from the Portuguese mainland. (They are attracted to Cumberland by a large Portuguese population that has grown steadily over several generations.)
- There also has been a slow, but steady increase in the Hispanic population of the town, causing this group to also become a larger user of E.S.L. services within the school. Most are Columbians, many of whom have lived briefly in nearby communities.

There are seven public elementary schools, one non-public elementary school and three secondary schools two of which are feeder middle schools.

A comprehensive battery of standardized tests are administered to grade 10. A significant number of students elect to take PSAT/NMSQT, achievement tests and/or A.P. tests in junior and senior years.

The average SAT scores for the following testing years were:

	<u>1980-1981</u>	<u>1990-1991</u>
VERBAL	410	430
MATHEMATICS	466	479

The vast majority of students, approximately 73.6% have been enrolled in the Cumberland School System for seven (7) or more years.

During the past year, 33 students formally withdrew from grades 9-12 and 82 transferred to other schools.

Approximately 87% of this year's graduating class plan to further their education at post-secondary institutions of higher learning. 55% plan to attend a four year program, 21% plan to attend a two year program and 11% plan to attend a technical or business school to further their educational goals.

The class of 1992 further indicates that 46% plan to pursue a professional career, 4% plan to enter management, 6% plan to enter the skilled labor force and 4% plan to pursue careers in clerical and/or office work. The remaining 40% are either undecided or another category.

The 1990 census indicates that the Town is 85% urban and 15% rural. The median family income in 1989 was \$45,695.

There is a great deal of family stability in Cumberland. Of those questionnaires for which responses were given, 11% of the students had divorced parents, 4% of the parents were separated and 3% had families where one parent was deceased.

Parent/Guardian/s Occupation

<u>Father/Male Guardian</u>			<u>Mother/Female Guardian</u>	
Agricultural	7		3	
Clerk/Secretary	10	1.0%	186	18.6%
Homemaker	7		145	14.5%
Laborer	107	10.6%	102	10.2%
Manager	131	13.0%	43	4.3%
Military	14	1.4%	4	
Professional	245	24.3%	216	21.6%
Service Occupations	118	11.7%	160	16.0%
Skilled Worker	285	28.2%	85	8.5%
Unknown	44	4.4%	31	3.1%
Other (please specify)	41	4.1%	26	2.6%

The highest educational level of parent/guardian:

	<u>Father/MG</u>		<u>Mother/FG</u>	
Formal education in elementary only	55	5%	49	5%
Partial but incomplete high school attendance	67	7%	119	11%
Have completed high school	188	18%	267	25%
High school equivalency (GED)	65	6%	61	6%
Some formal education beyond high other than college	56	5%	88	8%
Some college education but without a degree	112	11%	127	12%
Associate's degree	83	8%	77	7%
Bachelor's degree	221	22%	158	15%
Advanced degree	178	17%	108	10%

The cost per secondary student is \$5,946 per year. School funding is derived 59.4% from local taxes, 38.6% from State sources and 2% Federal sources.

Tax rate is \$26.88 per thousand where 63% is towards school expenditure. The school budget allocation amounts are given to the principal by the Superintendent. The principal then requests department chairpersons to submit their proposals based on current allocations. This is accomplished by department chairpersons meetings with their respective area instructors for input to their needs. The high school office then develops budget needs for general school needs. Prioritizing is then done at each level with proposals then submitted to the Superintendent. This year (91-92) there is a zero percent increase. Last year reflected a 5% increase.

After the recession of the late 1980's in which 2 key industries left the Town (and with the collapse of the housing market and banking crisis) the Town has witnessed a slight resurgence in the economy.

Some questions Congressman Kennedy has prepared

- How can adults -- parents, mentors, neighbors, religious leaders, teachers -- stay engaged with students and help them through difficult times or times when they are thinking of turning to violence?
- How does self respect, respect of fellow students, and respect for the authority figures affect students' reactions to violence?
- How can we encourage students to be more accepting of "outcasts?" What role do "cliques" and labels play such as "jocks, preps, or nerds...?"
- What about the role of parents, should we make it mandatory that every parent must take an active part in their teen's school?

- In light of the fact that acts of violence are happening early....just last week a seventh grade student in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, brought a gun to school and wounded several students, when do intervention efforts need to start.. elementary school, middle school, junior high????

Suggested questions for Cumberland High School

To a student: Do you believe there are enough trusted adults at school for troubled youth to reach out to? Is there a sufficient number of counselors, are they friendly and accessible, and do students feel comfortable confiding in them?

Do you think it is easy or difficult for a student to gain access to a firearm in your community? What can we do to prevent young people from gaining access to guns? Have there been any problems with gun possession at Cumberland and, if so, what was done about it and what did you learn?

What lessons have you learned from the experience of other schools dealing with youth violence? Have you had any instances of violence here in Cumberland that have changed the way you think about school violence prevention?

To a teacher: What warning signs do you look for to indicate that a student may feel alienated from his or her classmates or teachers?

Does your school have peer mentoring or other programs to help students feel more comfortable and to ensure that other students are available in times of need?

Should we expand school-based mental health services for our young people?

What general steps has Cumberland high school taken to reduce the likelihood of school violence?

What can we, as members of Congress, do to help reduce school violence?

To a parent: What can we do to get parents more involved in the life of the schools their children attend?

Are after school programs needed to provide supervision to pre-teens and teens in the afternoon hours before many parents are home from work?

What kind of role do your church, police department, or other community groups play in the supervision of your children?

Our state and nation are becoming more ethnically diverse every day. Do you discuss diversity issues with your children?

Facsimile from Senator Jack Reed's Office

201 Hillside Road, Suite 200

Cranston, RI 02920

(401) 943-3100 Fax: (401) 464-6837

Date: 10 Dec 1999To: Ruby Shamier

Office: _____

Fax Number: (202) 456-2878Number of pages: c+ 1

Original to follow in the mail: _____ yes _____ no

From:

____ Senator Jack Reed _____ Raymond D. Simone

____ Lynne M. Lombardi _____ Kathryn Hanson

____ Norelys R. Consuegra _____ Cheryl A. Ward

____ Robert Gousie _____ Brenda M. Pacheco

____ Dennis Riley _____ ☒ Nancy L. Langrall

____ Nancy Melo _____ Mary Ellen Rodgers

Other: _____

Remarks: List of questions...

FACSIMILE**CONGRESSMAN****PATRICK J. KENNEDY****FIRST DISTRICT - RHODE ISLAND**DISTRICT OFFICE

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PAWTUCKET, RI 02860
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

312 CANNON H.O.B
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TO: RubyFAX NO: 1-202-456-2878

FROM:

- ☐ LARRY FERGUSON
- ☐ PAULA GEMMA
- ☒ LARRY BERMAN
- ☐ KATHY HINCKLEY
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OLDER AMERICANS CAUCUS
LAW ENFORCEMENT CAUCUS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Background about Congressman Patrick Kennedy on these issues

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- ◆ He is a Member of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus- a group dedicated to law enforcement issues. it has 72 bipartisan members
- ◆ Sponsored and Voted for Bulletproof Vest Grant Partnership act. This important legislation provides matching federal grants to local police departments when purchasing bulletproof vests.
- ◆ GUNS

Sponsor of:

**THE FIREARMS SAFETY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT-
HR 920**

He is the main House Sponsor of the Firearms Safety and Consumer Protection Act. The bill gives Treasury the power to regulate the manufacture, distribution, and sale of firearms and ammunition. Groups, such as Stop Handgun Violence and Violence Policy Center, support the bill very strongly. They are supportive of this approach because they agree that regulatory authority should be in the hands of the BATF. At its unveiling with Senator Torricelli's companion Senate bill on March 2, 1999 the NAACP, Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Physicians for Social Responsibility all endorsed the bill.

Sponsor of:**THE GUN BUYBACK PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT- HR 724**

He is the main sponsor of the Gun Buyback Partnership Grant Act to establish a matching grant program for law enforcement departments to help State and local jurisdictions conduct community gun buy backs.

Community Gun Buy Backs are very prevalent in Rhode Island. PJK has attended the unveiling of numerous gun buyback programs in the communities of Woonsocket, Bristol, Newport, and the unveiling of a regional buyback program with Southeastern New England in Middletown.

Cosponsor of:

Original sponsor with Congressman Rod Blagojevich on the Ammunition Reporting Act HR 87 and a bill to regulate the transfer of guns at gun shows, HR 109. The first bill will place reasonable reporting requirements on the purchase of large quantities of handgun ammo. The Blagojevich Bill will amend the law so that anyone who purchases over 1,000 rounds of handgun ammunition will have to fill out a multiple purchase form.

The second bill, HR 109, requires reporting of gun sales that are conducted at gun shows. This previously had been exempt from background check reporting regulations.

Congressman John Porter's bipartisan legislation to create a "cooling off period" for the sale of guns- in light of the overturning of the Brady bill waiting period law. This bill will create a minimum 72-hour handgun purchase waiting period, with some exemptions possible.

Cosponsor of the "twelve is enough" bill by Congressman Wexler that allows the sale of only one handgun per 30 day period. Does not include rifles or shotguns. It is aimed at ending "gunrunning."

YOUTH AND SCHOOL VIOLENCE

- He met with students at North Providence High School shortly after Columbine to discuss, prejudices, violence, anger, and gun violence in the schools. When the students were asked if they knew anyone who could commit an attack or anyone who has anger inside them like Harris and Klebold, every hand went up. When they were asked if anyone was fearful of the types of violence that happened in Littleton, fearful that something like that could happen there? again nearly every hand went up.

He also participated, along with Senator Reed, in a program very similar to this one in June 1999 with Vice President Gore at Shea High School in Pawtucket. Many of the same subjects were discussed.

- He also feels there is a need to recognize that the combination of a culture of violence and gaping firearms laws have taken what used to be "schoolyard fist fights"- into gun battles.

Congressman Kennedy's brief opening remarks are centered on three areas:

*the meetings he has had at North Providence High School and Shea High School in Pawtucket to discuss, prejudices, violence. Including when Vice President Gore was there to discuss these issues.

*Also, mention of general gun violence statistics.

*And lastly, a mention of the White House Conference on Mental Health led by Vice President Gore, Tipper Gore, President Clinton and the First Lady.

PATRICK J. KENNEDY
1ST DISTRICT, RHODE ISLAND

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LAW ENFORCEMENT CAUCUS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

To: Office of the First Lady *To: PATTY Solis-Doyle*
From: Congressman Kennedy
December 2, 1999

I am requesting that I host, along with Senator Reed, a discussion in the round with students on the issues of diversity and school violence on Monday, December 13, at approximately 10:30 a.m. at Cumberland High School in Cumberland, RI. It would last until approximately 12 noon.

I have chosen Cumberland because it is in the heart of my district in the Blackstone Valley. Three daily newspapers (The Providence Journal, The Pawtucket Times and The Woonsocket Call) and two weekly newspapers extensively cover the town. It is only 10-15 minutes from Providence and has easy access to a major highway.

Cumberland is also a natural choice because the School Department and Police Department have been very aggressive in seeking federal funds to tackle the problem of violence in schools. In the last two years, Cumberland has received a total of nearly \$500,000 in funding from the Justice Department's COPS in Schools Program and the School-Based Partnerships Program (see attached). Cumberland was the only community in Rhode Island to receive funding this year for COPS in Schools, and was first community in Rhode Island to receive funding for the School-Based Partnerships. They have exciting programs, teachers and police officers in place at both the middle school and high school levels to address violence and diversity issues. On a related note, earlier this year, Cumberland High School was also chosen as one of only 70 schools in the nation to earn the distinction of being a National Service-Learning Leader School as part of a new Presidential awards initiative for its innovative programs.

Finally, we have chosen Cumberland because we enjoy an outstanding relationship with Mayor Frank Gaschen, Police Chief Anthony Silva and Schools Superintendent Joseph Nasif. All are dynamic leaders who work well together and with the community of more than 30,000 people.

We propose following a similar format as the successful Voices Against Violence earlier this fall. We had three students participate in that program in Washington, and all would be invited to our event to share their insights.

Although Cumberland is a diverse community, with a particularly large Portuguese population, we will also be inviting a group of students from several nearby communities to represent the diversity of the Blackstone Valley, which has large numbers of Hispanic, African-American and Southeast populations in communities such as Woonsocket and Central Falls.

We would also invite community leaders, teachers and parents from Cumberland and nearby communities. This would be a non-partisan, non-political event.

After brief remarks by the First Lady, Senator Reed and myself, we would open the program up for a dialogue, with a heavy emphasis on student participation. The First Lady, Senator Reed and I would pose questions to the students to keep the dialogue on issues of diversity and violence flowing smoothly.

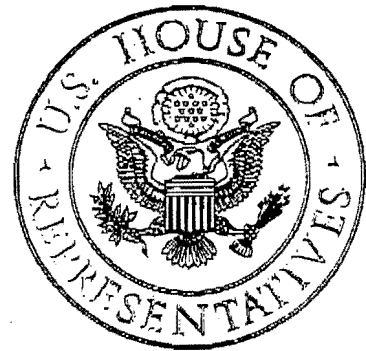
Your contact for the event is Tony Marcella, my chief of staff. Larry Berman, my press secretary, will handle the media arrangements. They can be contacted in my district office at 401-729-5600.

CONGRESSMAN

PATRICK J. KENNEDY

FIRST DISTRICT — RHODE ISLAND

NEWS RELEASE



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CUMBERLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDED \$250,000 IN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR TWO OFFICERS IN SCHOOLS

Brings total to \$462,495 in partnership with School Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, September 7, 1999

For additional information, contact:
Larry Berman (401) 729-5600

WASHINGTON -- The Cumberland Police Department will have two full-time officers working in the secondary schools for the next three years, thanks to a \$250,000 federal grant announced today by Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy (D-RI).

The funds are provided by the U.S. Justice Department's COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) in Schools Program. Cumberland was the only Police Department in the state to be awarded funding in this round of grants. The funds cover the salaries and benefits of two officers over a three-year period.

"This is fantastic news for the town of Cumberland," said Kennedy. "The award is a tribute to the dedicated Police Department, headed by Chief Tony Silva. Cumberland residents can feel safe in knowing that the community has a comprehensive program in place to hopefully head off any violent incidents in schools before they occur."

On August 17, Kennedy announced \$111,025 in federal funding for the second year of the town's School-Based Partnerships, another program offered through the Justice Department's COPS office. Combined with \$101,470 in funding received for the first year of the program, Cumberland has now been awarded \$462,495 for its efforts to prevent violence in schools.

In addition to Silva and Sgt. Christine Crocker, the Police Department's grant writer, Kennedy also praised the efforts of Mayor Francis A. Gaschen and Schools Superintendent Joseph Nasif for their support of the police-school partnership.

One full-time veteran officer will be assigned to Cumberland High School, while a second veteran officer will share full-time duties between Cumberland Middle School and North Cumberland Middle School. Silva said an application process will soon be determined for the interested officers, who will work both during the school days and will attend school functions.

-More-

Two rookie officers will be hired and placed on patrol duties to replace the officers who will work in the schools. Silva said tentative plans call for the prospective officers to begin in the next session of the Rhode Island Municipal Police Officers Training Academy, which commences in December and finishes in March 2000.

The veteran officers would then begin in the schools in March for a three-year period.

"The beauty of the program is that unlike several other COPS initiatives, no local match is required," Kennedy pointed out. "These two officers will be brought in at no expense to the local taxpayers."

The presence of the officers will dovetail nicely with the School-Based Partnerships program. Cumberland was the first police department in Rhode Island to receive funding for this endeavor.

The first year of funding was used to focus on the two middle schools, with the police and school departments working together to identify the causes of disorderly behavior, followed by the implementation of programs to develop solutions. The awards announced last month will enable those programs to continue throughout the 1999-2000 school year, as well be expanded to the high school for the same purposes for this entire school year.

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