

Dear [insert the name of your local school principal or youth organization director],

I am [a parent/community member/neighbor] and I am asking you to join me in preventing gun violence (and other forms of violence and victimization) BEFORE it happens in our community.

Did you know that when it comes to violence, suicide and threats, most are known by at least one other individual BEFORE the incident takes place. In fact, 80% of school shooters told someone of their violent plans prior to the event. Additionally, 70% of people who complete suicide told someone of their plans or gave some type of warning or indication. Imagine how much tragedy could be averted if these individuals said something?

Say Something is a no-cost and easy to implement program that teaches students, grades 6 -12, how to look for warning signs, signals and threats, especially in social media, from individuals who may want to hurt themselves or others and to *Say Something* to a trusted adult to get them help. In addition to young people, *Say Something* will benefit educators, administrators, community based organization leaders and parents. The program is based on research conducted by Dr. Dewey Cornell and Dr. Reid Meloy, two leading national experts in threat assessment and intervention.

National *Say Something* Week is organized by Sandy Hook Promise (<http://www.sandyhookpromise.org>) and will take place Feb. 25 to Mar. 1, 2019. Hundreds of schools and youth organizations across the United States will be participating in *Say Something* Week. Will you join them?

Say Something Week raises awareness and educates students and the community through training, media events, advertising, public proclamations, contests and school awards. *Say Something* Week reinforces the power young people have to prevent tragedies and *Say Something* to a trusted adult to protect a friend from hurting them self or others.

Schools and youth organizations participating in *Say Something* Week agree to host a no cost, easy to implement *Say Something* training that can take place digitally within the classroom or as a homework assignment or in-person at an assembly. The training can be accomplished in 50 minutes or less and activities (which SHP provides or schools and organizations can create) can take place on one day or spread throughout the week. In addition to the initial training, the *Say Something* program offers a wide range of post training activities that can be done throughout the year and serve as reminders.

Please help us empower our young people to prevent violence before it takes place. **Please sign up to participate in *Say Something* week today at: <http://www.sandyhookpromise.org/ssw>.**

Thank you,
[Insert full name, email and phone number]

Who is Sandy Hook Promise?

Sandy Hook Promise (SHP) is a national, nonprofit organization based in Newtown, Connecticut. We are led by several family members whose loved ones were killed in the tragic mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012 that claimed the lives of 20 first-graders and 6 educators. SHP is focused on preventing gun violence (and other forms of violence and victimization) BEFORE it happens by educating and mobilizing youth and adults on mental health and wellness programs that identify,

intervene and help at-risk individuals. SHP is a moderate, above-the-politics organization that supports sensible non-policy and policy solutions that protect children and prevent gun violence. Our intent is to honor all victims of gun violence by turning our tragedy into a moment of transformation. For more information, visit www.sandyhookpromise.org.