



Alaska Association of Student Government

Resolution #11

Sandy Hook Promise

Submitted by: Bethel ANSEP Acceleration Academy; Maia LaValle & Isabella January

Submitted: April 23, 2025

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that:

1. **Whereas**, the Sandy Hook Promise is a national nonprofit organization founded by family members of victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, dedicated to preventing gun violence and promoting school safety through education, advocacy, and community engagement;
2. **Whereas**, school safety is a top priority, and preventative education can significantly reduce risks of violence and promote a positive school climate;
3. **Whereas**, Sandy Hook Promise provides no-cost evidence-based programs, such as “Say Something,” “Start With Hello,” and “Signs of Suicide”, which empower students to recognize warning signs and take action;¹
4. **Whereas**, implementing these programs throughout the entire Lower Kuskokwim school district (LKSD) would ensure that students of all grade levels receive training on violence prevention, fostering a culture of awareness and intervention;
5. **Whereas**, according to the Johns Hopkins University Website, “Each year, nearly 25,000 Americans die by firearm suicide;”⁵

6. **Whereas**, according to the Department of Justice, “Half of all suicide deaths are by firearm;”⁴
7. **Whereas**, according to Johns Hopkins University, “American Indian/Alaska Native people were four times as likely to die by gun homicide than their white counterparts between 2018 and 2022;”⁶
8. **Whereas**, according to the Johns Hopkins University Website, “Each year 18,000 Americans die by firearm homicide;”⁵
9. **Whereas**, “Suicidality was found to be a strong predictor of perpetration of mass shootings;”⁴
10. **Whereas**, these statistics show why the signs of suicide should be taught to teens as well to prevent shootings;
11. **Whereas**, 54% of the homicides in Alaska and 79% of the homicides in the US were carried out with a gun;^{5,6}
12. **Whereas**, The Johns Hopkins University Center for Gun Violence Solutions stated, “One-third of US adults report that fear of a mass shooting has prevented them from attending certain places or events.”; ⁵
13. **Whereas**, many schools across the nation have successfully implemented Sandy Hook Promise programs, leading to documented instances of prevented violence and student interventions;
14. **Whereas**, parents would have the option to opt their kids out of potentially triggering trainings;
15. **Whereas**, incorporating Sandy Hook Promise programs into classroom lessons and assemblies will allow for continuous engagement and reinforcement of safety measures; ²

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports the LKSD implementing Sandy Hook Promise programs through structured classroom curriculum and school-wide assemblies;

Action Statement: If passed, this resolution will be presented to the LKSD school district board, urging them to adopt and integrate Sandy Hook Promise programs as a mandatory component of student education and school safety initiatives. Students can take this knowledge that was learned through the Sandy Hook Promise programs and implement it into their future and teach other people of the signs and warning of gun violence.

Sources:

1. Sandy Hook Promise. (2024). *Sandy Hook Promise*. Sandy Hook Promise.

<https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/>

2. Sandy Hook Promise. (2020, July 25). *17 facts about gun violence and school shootings*.

Sandy Hook Promise.

<https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/blog/gun-violence/facts-about-gun-violence-and-school-shootings/>

3. *How many people die from gun-related injuries in Alaska each year?* | USAFacts. (2023).

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<https://usafacts.org/answers/how-many-people-die-from-gun-related-injuries-in-the-us-each-month/state/alaska/>

4. National Institute of Justice. (2022, February 3). *Public Mass Shootings: Database*

Amasses Details of a Half Century of U.S. Mass Shootings with Firearms,

Generating Psychosocial Histories. National Institute of Justice; Office of Justice Programs.

<https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/public-mass-shootings-database-amasses-details-half-century-us-mass-shootings>

5. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. (2023). *The Public Health Approach to Prevent Gun Violence* | Center for Gun Violence Solutions.

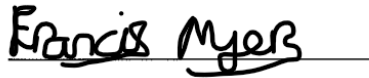
Publichealth.jhu.edu.

<https://publichealth.jhu.edu/center-for-gun-violence-solutions/research-reports/the-public-health-approach-to-prevent-gun-violence>

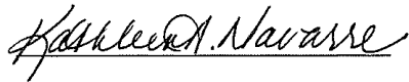
6. *State Data: Alaska* | Center for Gun Violence Solutions. (2022). Center for Gun Violence Solutions. <https://publichealth.jhu.edu/center-for-gun-violence-solutions/alaska>

Resolution passes with unanimous consent

Passed by the Spring 2025 General Assembly of AASG hosted by Sitka High School and Mt Edgecumbe High School

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis Myers". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

AASG Vice President, Francis Myers

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Navarre". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre