



Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.

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March 1, 2018

Robert G. Peterson, Chair
Shawsheen Valley Technical High School
100 Cook Street
Billerica, MA 01821-5499

Dear Mr. Peterson:

We are encouraged by the initiative that the Shawsheen school committee is taking to encourage actions around school safety and gun control. Here's what we are doing, and what we have done:

I am attaching our position paper that we presented to our congressional delegation at the NSBA winter meetings in February 2018. We have taken a strong position, as has the MASC Delegate Assembly, in authorizing this public policy before the recent Florida tragedies. As you can see, we oppose the sale of assault weapons and the large magazines that have been the source of a lot of sorrow in this country.

In addition, we have shared with all our members sample safety plans from other state board associations and have begun advising several on how to communicate with the public. We have fielded dozens of calls from our members who want to mobilize action around the country.

Also, we are scheduling school safety sessions in our divisions with the first taking place later this month, and our summer academy will include sessions on gun safety and mobilizing to change public policy. We anticipate our April Day on the Hill in Boston will be a similar source of mobilization on gun safety issues along with a number of other issues.

Finally, since we have a Massachusetts representative on the NSBA board of directors, Jake Oliveira, and as he is the chair of the national policy and beliefs committee of the 2018 Delegate Assembly meeting in San Antonio next month, it is our plan to demand a national resolution on assault weapons and large magazine firearms.

Unfortunately, it will never be enough, but our plan is to be persistent in mobilizing public opinion. Please feel free to use text from our resolution to mobilize in your area.

Again, thanks for your interest and for sharing your ideas, now and in the future.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Koocher", written over a horizontal line.

Glenn Koocher
Executive Director