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**Heller-Backed STOP School Violence Act Authorized Over $1 Million To Help Nevada Improve School Safety**

**WASHINGTON -** U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) today announced that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has awarded $1 million to the Nevada Department of Education and $13,856 to the Lincoln County School District as a result of the [STOP School Violence Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2018/3/heller-hatch-and-bipartisan-group-of-20-senators-introduce-critical-school-safety-legislation), legislation that he co-authored to help Nevada improve school safety and security measures. Enacted on March 23, 2018, the [STOP School Violence Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2018/3/heller-hatch-and-bipartisan-group-of-20-senators-introduce-critical-school-safety-legislation) funds school security infrastructure updates to better deter and respond to threats, and additionally, it invests in training and early prevention programs to help students, educators, and local law enforcement intervene and stop school violence before it happens. Today, the DOJ awarded more than $70 million in grant funding to schools throughout the country.

Specifically, DOJ’s STOP School Violence Prevention and Mental Health Training Program will provide the Nevada Department of Education with $500,000 and Lincoln County School District with $13,856 for education and training to help prevent violence and effectively respond to mental health crises. Additionally, the Nevada Department of Education will receive $500,000 from the STOP School Violence Threat Assessment and Technology Reporting Program, which supports training to establish and operate crisis intervention teams and develop technology – in the form of a mobile phone application, hotline, or website – for anonymous reporting systems.

“Every child deserves to feel safe in the classroom, period. That is why I co-authored the STOP School Violence Act and fought to send it the President’s desk,” **said Heller.** “A safe learning environment is critical to students’ academic success, and that is why I am pleased that Nevada will receive over $1 million to support training programs to help prevent violence, establish crisis intervention teams, and develop technology for anonymous reporting systems. This is a positive step forward toward keeping Nevada’s schools and communities safe.”

Earlier this year, [Heller visited the Clark County School District Police Department (CCSDPD) and met with law enforcement officials to discuss school safety as well as the STOP School Violence Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2018/4/heller-discusses-school-safety-with-clark-county-law-enforcement). CCSDPD is the fourth largest school district police force in the United States.

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