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## 'Our hearts are broken today'



Newtown Bee/Shannon Hicks

Connecticut State Police escort children from Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., Friday morning.

**20 children among 26 killed by man at Conn. school**

By John Christoffersen  
 Associated Press

NEWTOWN, Conn. — A man killed his mother at their home and then opened fire Friday inside the elementary school where she taught, massacring 26 people, including 20 children, as youngsters cowered in fear to the sound of gunshots reverberating through the building and screams echoing over the intercom.

The 20-year-old killer, carrying at least two handguns, committed suicide at the school, bringing the death toll to 28, authorities said.

The rampage, coming less than two weeks before Christmas, was the nation's second-deadliest school shooting, exceeded only by the Virginia Tech massacre that left 33 people dead in 2007.

"Our hearts are broken today," a tearful President Barack Obama, struggling to maintain his composure, said at the White House. He called for "meaningful action" to prevent such shootings. "As a country, we have been through this too many times," he said.

Police shed no light on the motive for the attack. The gunman, Adam

## Experts discuss helping kids cope in crisis

By Craig Anderson  
 Delaware State News

DOVER — Communicating with children and limiting access to ongoing media recaps are keys for adults in helping youngsters process Friday morning's mass shooting tragedy at a Connecticut elementary school, a Delaware social worker said later in the day.

Bob Dunleavy, director of Acute Care Services at the Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health, urged parents, guardians and other adults to have conversations with their children to gauge what their thoughts are, and not assume what the kids are thinking before hearing from them.

"During a conversation with a

child, don't assume that he or she is worried about the same things you are," said Mr. Dunleavy, who works with the Delaware Children's Department. "Listen to what their concerns and worries are."

Maintaining a regular routine when the next school day arrives Monday is also paramount to reas-

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