

URBAN HIGH SCHOOL DISORDER REDUCTION PROJECT

A collaborative effort between:

- The Dayton Police Department
- Dayton Public Schools
- The Juvenile Division of the Montgomery County
Prosecutor's Office
- Montgomery County Juvenile Court

Belmont High School

Dayton, Ohio



Introduction

Dayton Police Department:

- Chief Richard S. Biehl
- Lieutenant Chris L. Williams
- Officer Merwyn W. Rodrigues

Dayton Public Schools:

- Principal David L. White

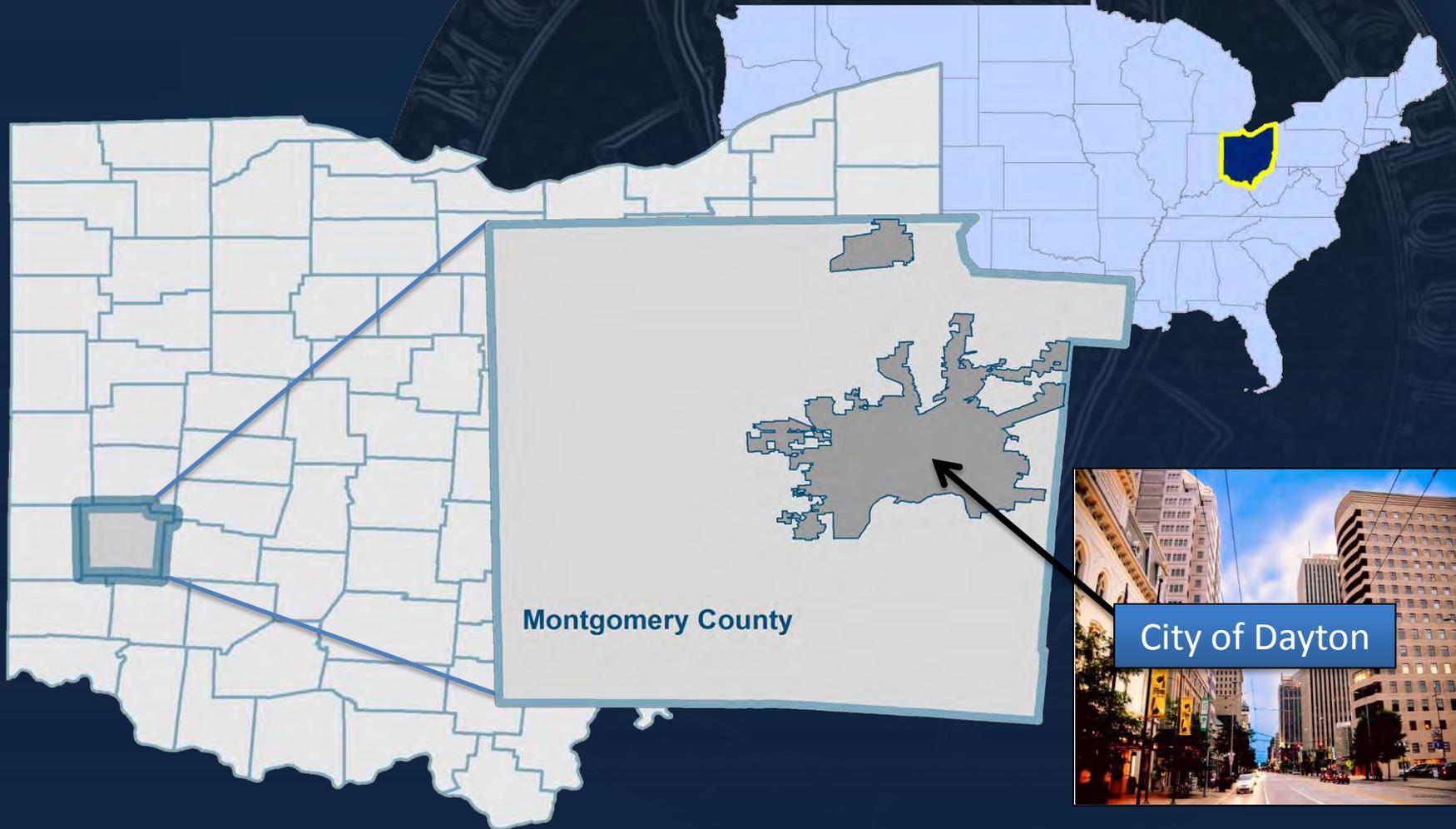
Montgomery County Juvenile Court

- Darlene Powell

Meet Chief Biehl Dayton Police

- More than 27 years experience
- Started with the Cincinnati Police Department in 1980 and was promoted through the ranks from patrol officer to Assistant Chief until 2004
- **Executive Director of Cincinnati's Community Partnering Center** from 2004-2008
- He was appointed to Chief of Police for the City of Dayton in January 2008
- Introduced the Dayton Police Department to CPOP
 - Community Problem Oriented Policing

Where is Dayton?



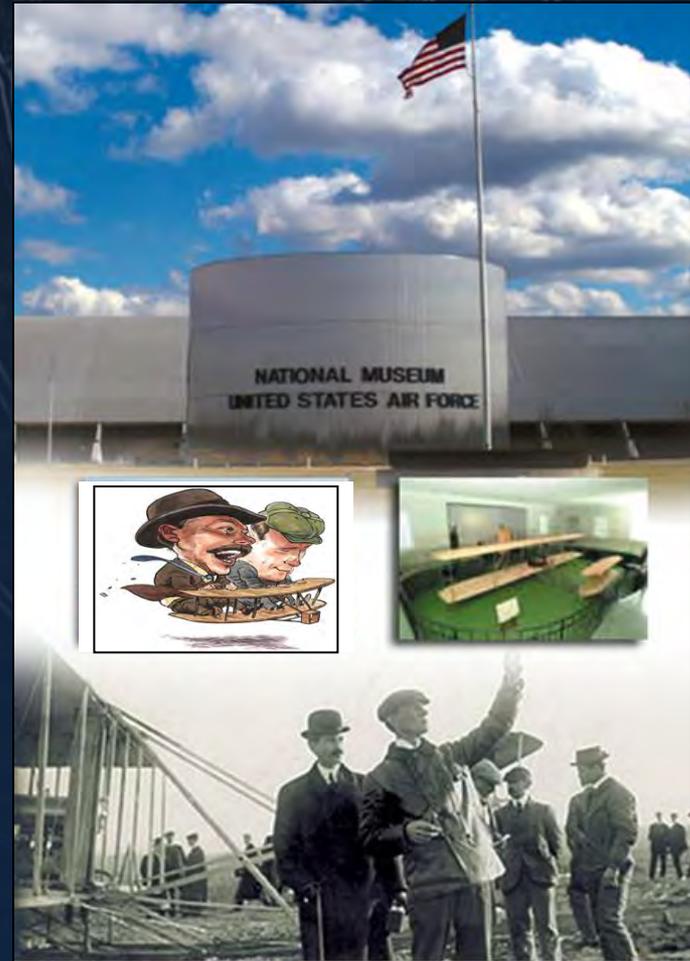
City of Dayton History

- Established:
April 1, 1796
- Incorporated: 1805
- Named after
Jonathan Dayton
 - One of the signers
the United States
Constitution



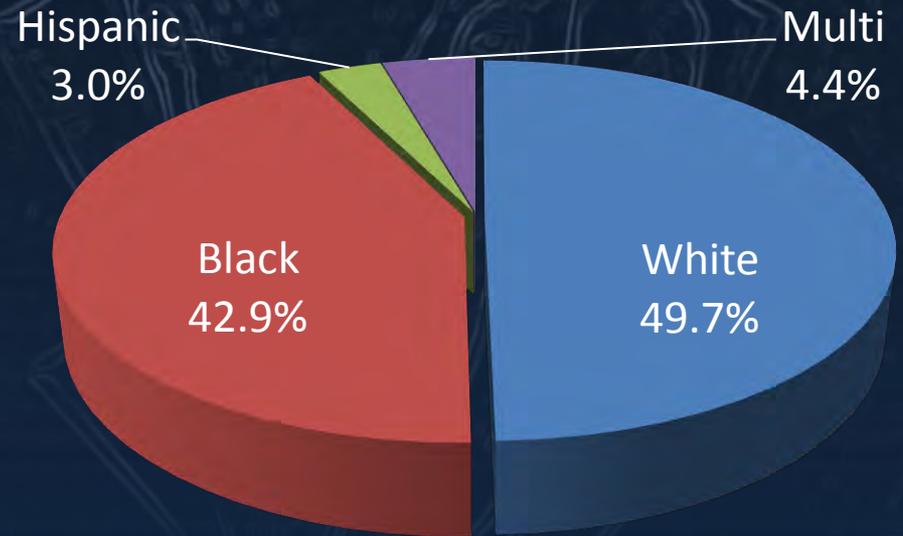
City of Dayton History

- Famous for:
 - Wright Brothers
 - Flight
 - Charles Kettering
 - Inventor
 - Paul Laurence Dunbar
 - National Poet
- Institutions include:
 - National Cash Register
 - University of Dayton
 - Wright-Patterson Air Force Base



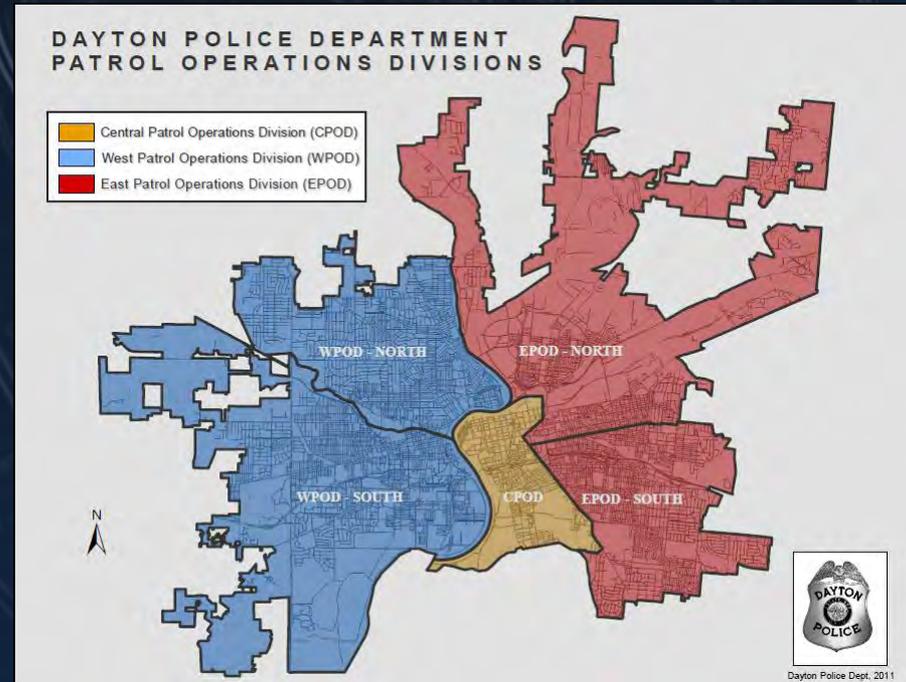
City of Dayton Demographics

- Population
 - 141,527
- Median Household Income
 - \$29,730
- Median Age
 - 34.3 Years



Dayton Police Department

- 347 Sworn Officers
- 3 Patrol Operation Divisions
- Patrolling 56.6 square miles
- Dayton Police received more than 139,000 Calls For Service in 2010



Overcoming Adversities

Three significant contributors to the loss of 95 sworn personnel since January 2008:

1. Significant budget cuts due to economic decline **exacerbated by the "Great Recession"**
2. Lawsuit by the Department of Justice challenging hiring practices governed by the Dayton Civil Service Commission
3. Increased retirements due to maximum (8 year) participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan

Problem Oriented Initiatives

- Corner of Chaos
 - Relocated central busing hub
 - **2010 Herman Goldstein Finalist**
- Burkhardt
 - Targeted the highest crime sector in the city
 - **2011 Ohio Crime Prevention Special Project Award Winner**
- Safe Delivery
 - Educating pizza delivery drivers on how to protect against robberies
 - **2011 Ohio Crime Prevention Special Project Award Winner**
- Miami Valley POP Conference
 - A collaborative effort involving numerous law enforcement agencies and citizen partners
- Bar Safe
 - Educating bar owners on how to reduce crime and increase management effectiveness

Lack of personnel and increasing calls for service demanding more with less deemed the necessity for POP initiatives

The background of the slide is a photograph of Belmont High School in Dayton, Ohio. The image is dark and semi-transparent. On the left side, a tall, narrow bell tower is visible, topped with a large bell. The word "BELMONT" is written vertically on the tower. To the right of the tower, the main school building is visible, featuring several windows and a flat roof. The overall color palette is dark blue and grey.

BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL

Dayton, Ohio

Lieutenant Chris L. Williams

Introduction

The Problem: Disorder in and around Belmont High School marked by disturbances, fights, a growing number of calls for service, and poor educational performance.

Success: Achieved by utilizing a number of strategies, including Crime Analysis and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), which greatly reduced the number of crimes and calls for service while improving the overall environment for the students, neighbors and law enforcement.

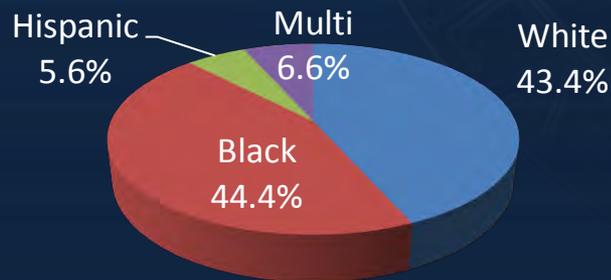
Introduction

- Belmont is located at 2323 Maplevue Avenue
- Belmont Neighborhood



Introduction

- Opened in 1956
- 800 - 900 Students Annually
- 1 of 6 high schools in Dayton Public Schools (DPS) system
- **On “Academic Emergency” since 2002**
- Demographics:



Introduction

The Urban High School Disorder Reduction Project was a combined effort between:

- Dayton Police Department
- Dayton Public Schools
- Juvenile Division of the Montgomery County **Prosecutor's Office**
- Montgomery County Juvenile Court





SCANNING

A need to clearly define the problem

Background

- In November 2008, Lt. Williams assumed command of the 2nd District
 - Approx. 59,000 citizens and over 46,000 calls for service
- First action was identifying the problem locations
- Review of the top 10 list of repeat call locations included the usual:
 - Apartment Complexes
 - Crack Houses
 - **Belmont High School!**

Background (continued)

- Belmont High School was actually the top call location for violent crimes in the entire city!
- Calls for service included:
 - Assaults
 - Drugs
 - Disturbances
 - Disorderly Juveniles
 - Threats

143 calls for service
in the 2008-2009
school year

Background (continued)

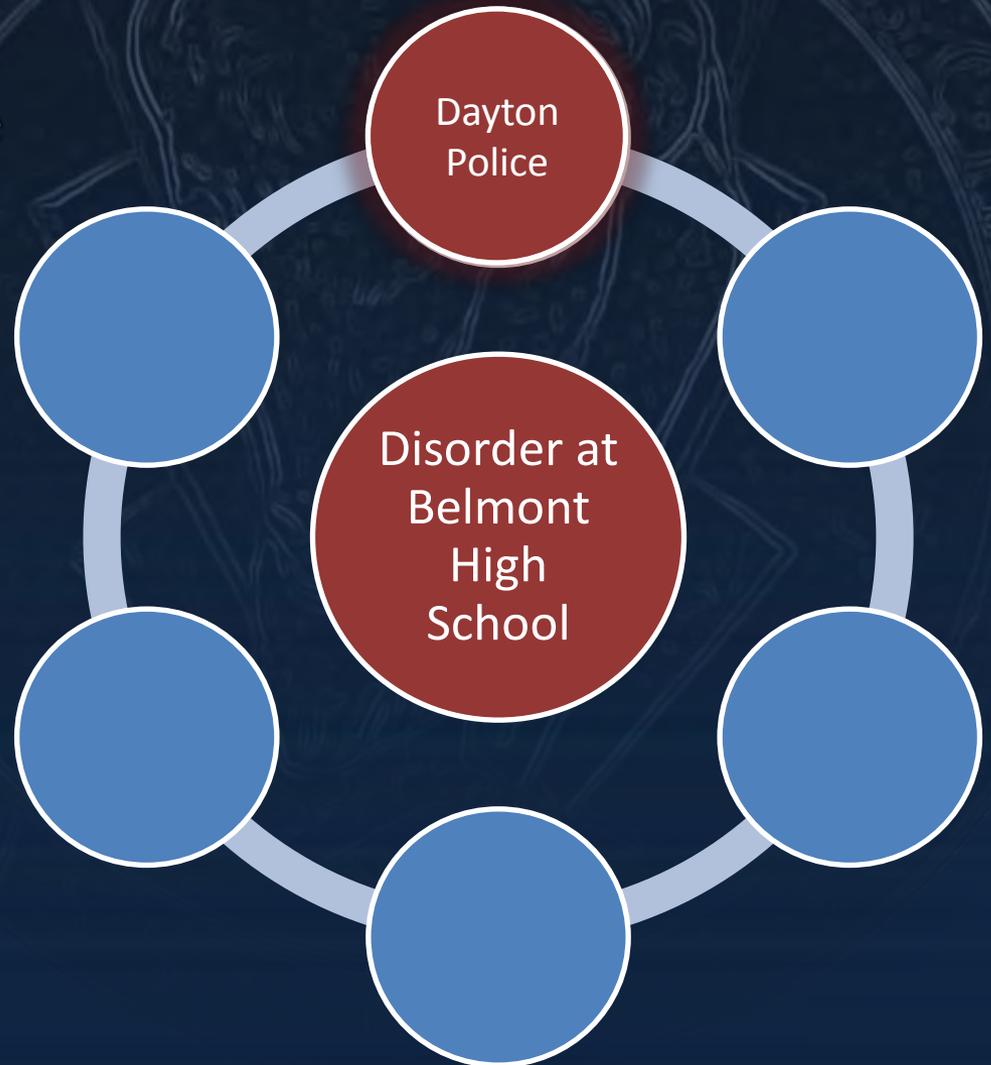
- Further investigation and feedback from local businesses suggested the problem was growing beyond the school grounds

Stakeholders had to be identified in order to determine their perception of the problem



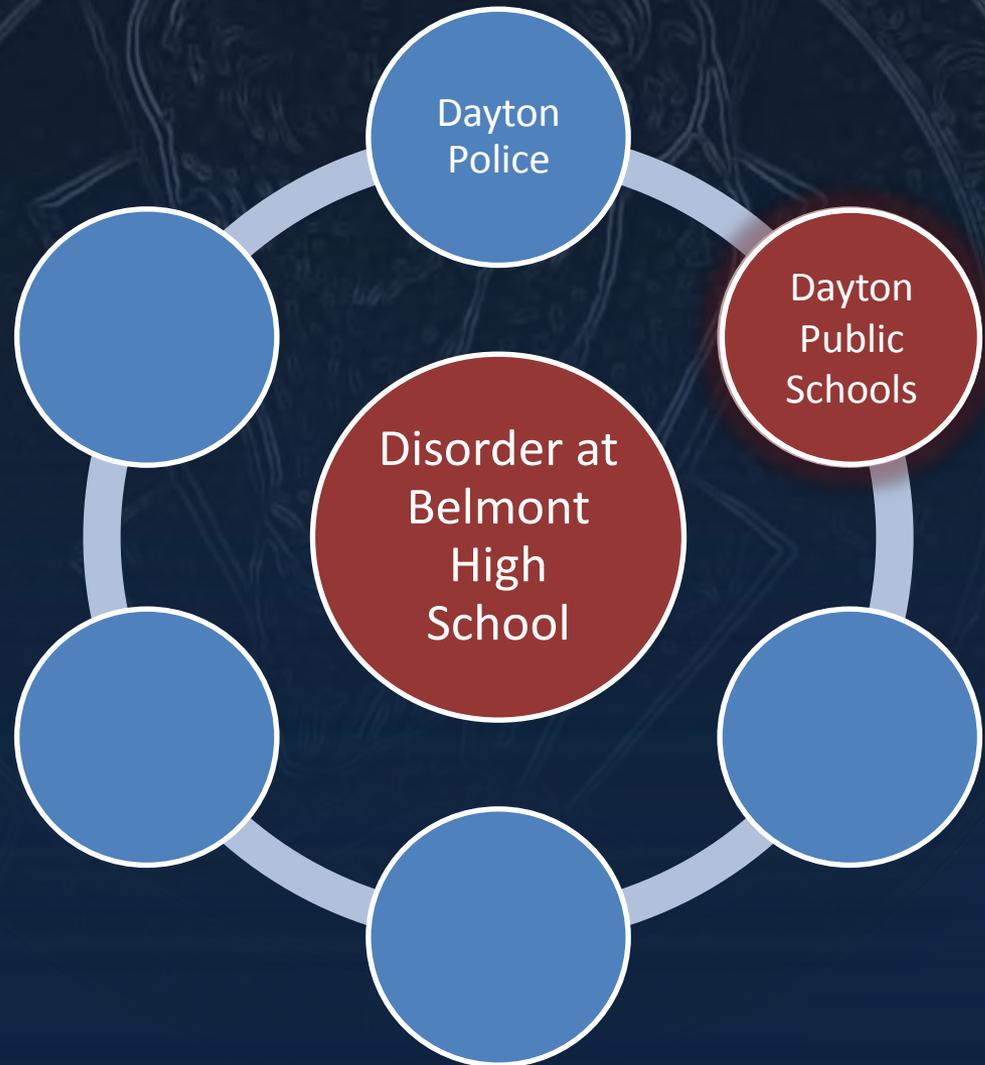
Stakeholders: Dayton PD

- Officers were responding multiple times every single day to the school
- The school was drawing too many police resources from the rest of the city
- The school was unresponsive
- The problem was getting worse



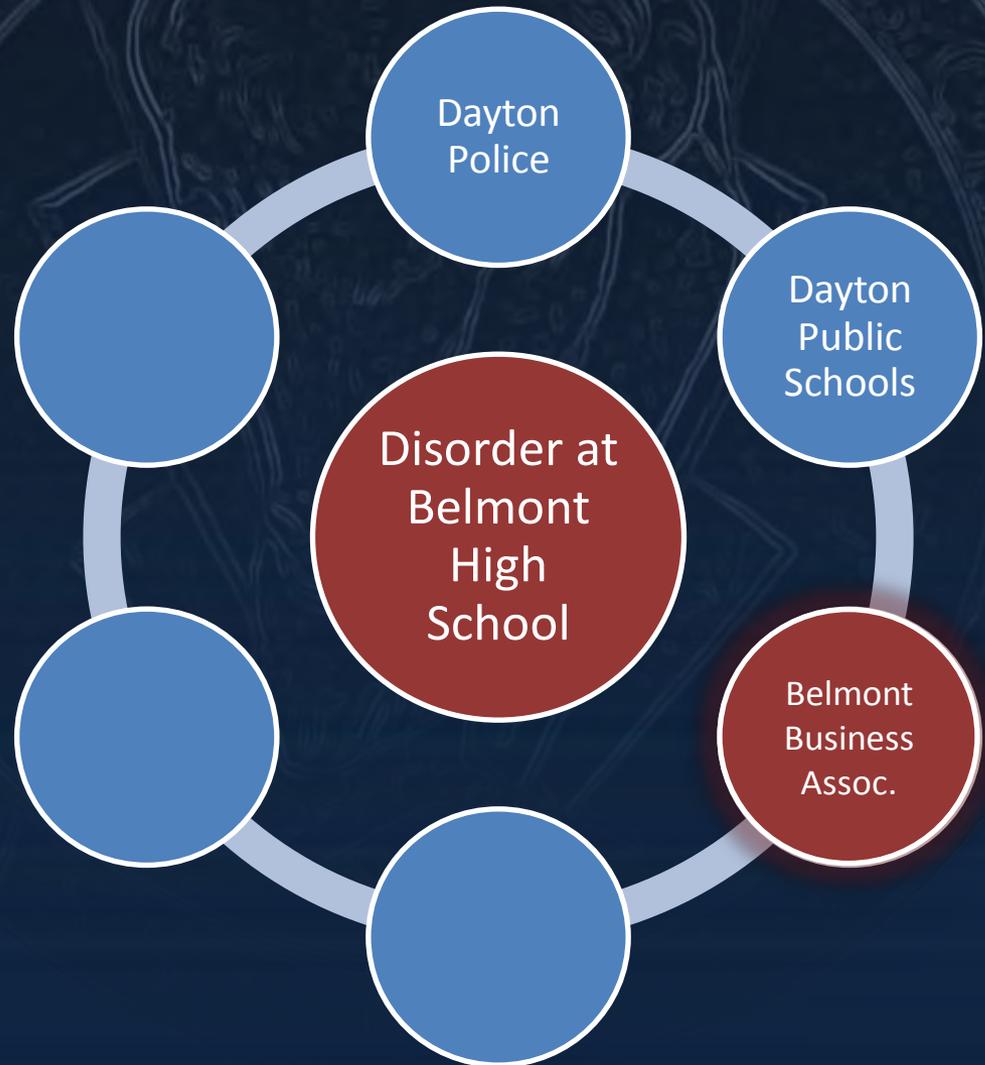
Stakeholders: Dayton Public Schools

- Belmont was considered a “**dumping grounds**” for problem students
- Budget constraints limited the ability to increase security or change environment
- Belmont High School was not a priority!



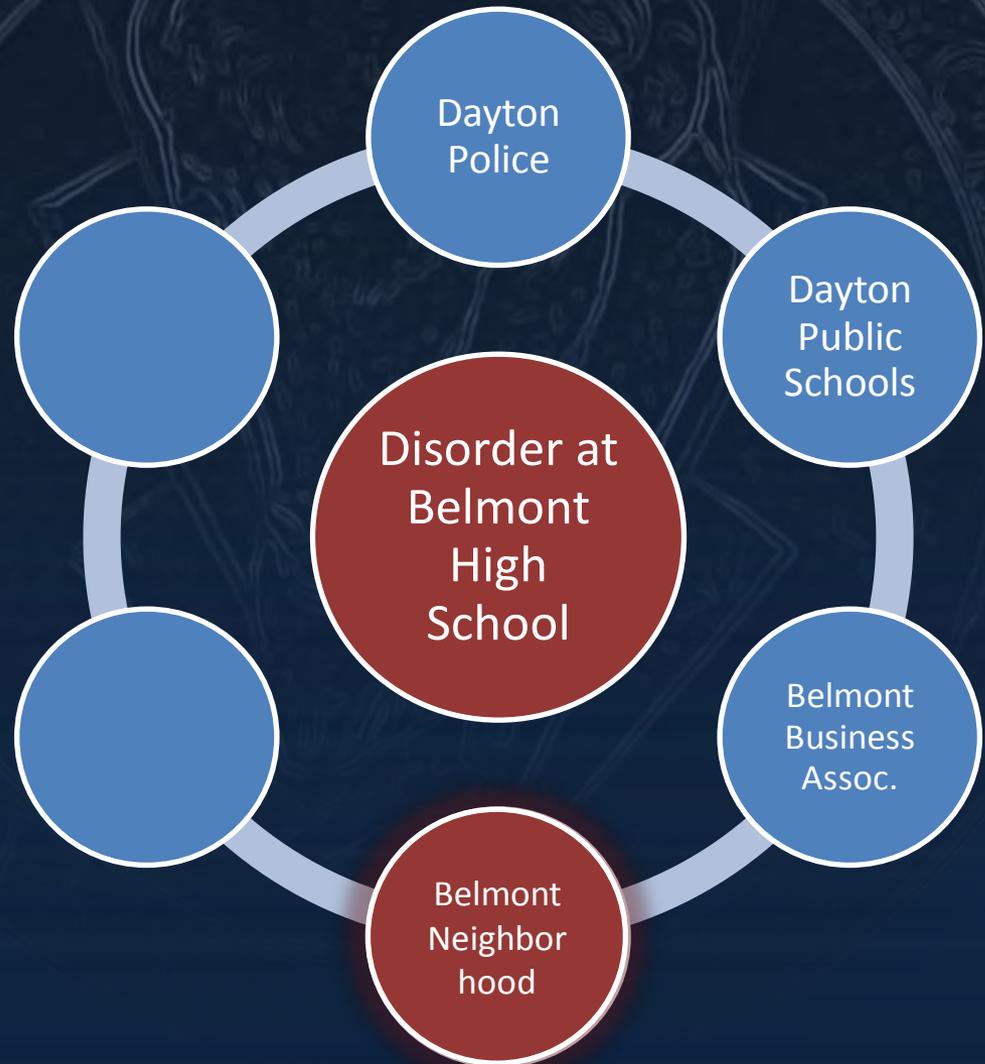
Stakeholders: Belmont Businesses

- Businesses were losing profit
- Increased crimes in local businesses area
- Assaults and other disorderly behavior was not conducive to attracting customers
- Wanted police and high school to do more



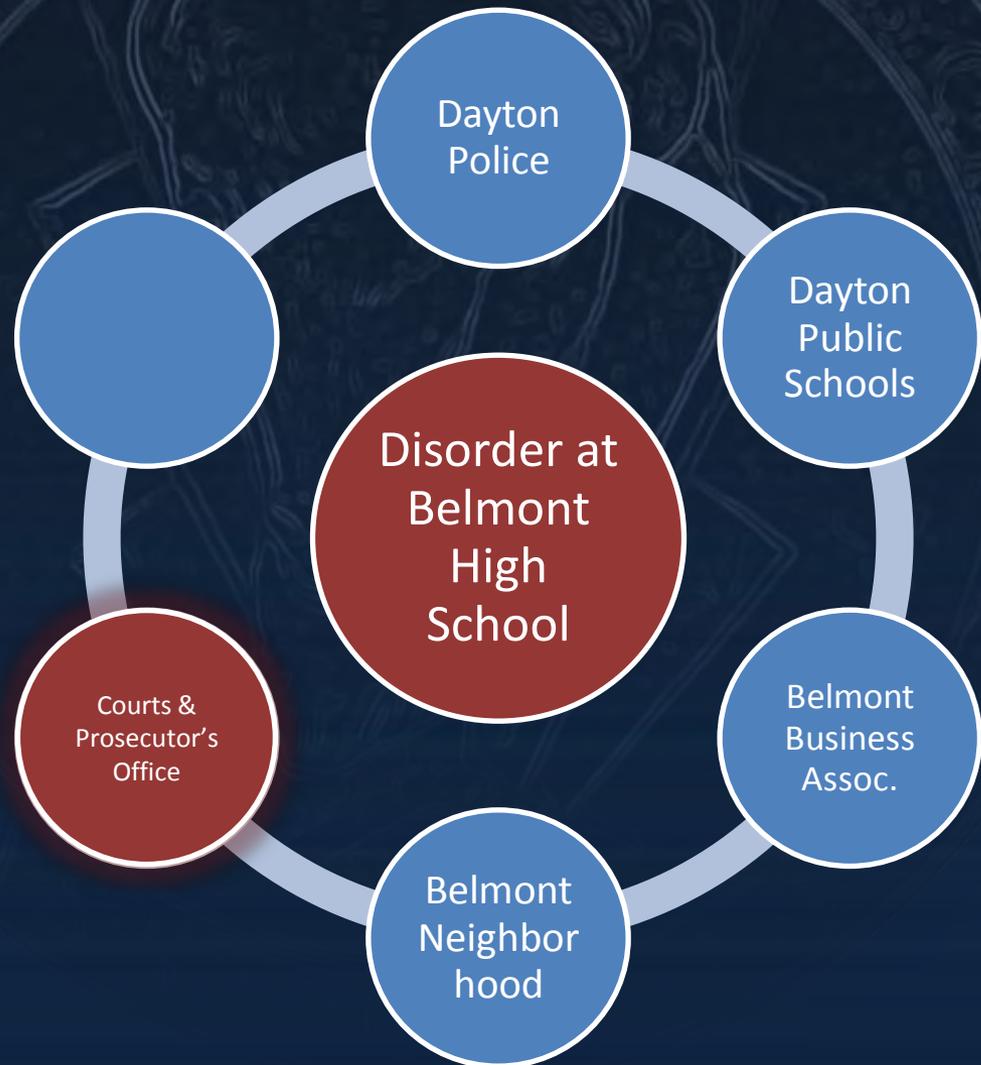
Stakeholders: Belmont Neighborhood

- Believed the students were to blame for deteriorating image
- Wanted police presence at all times
- Felt court ordered busing was to blame



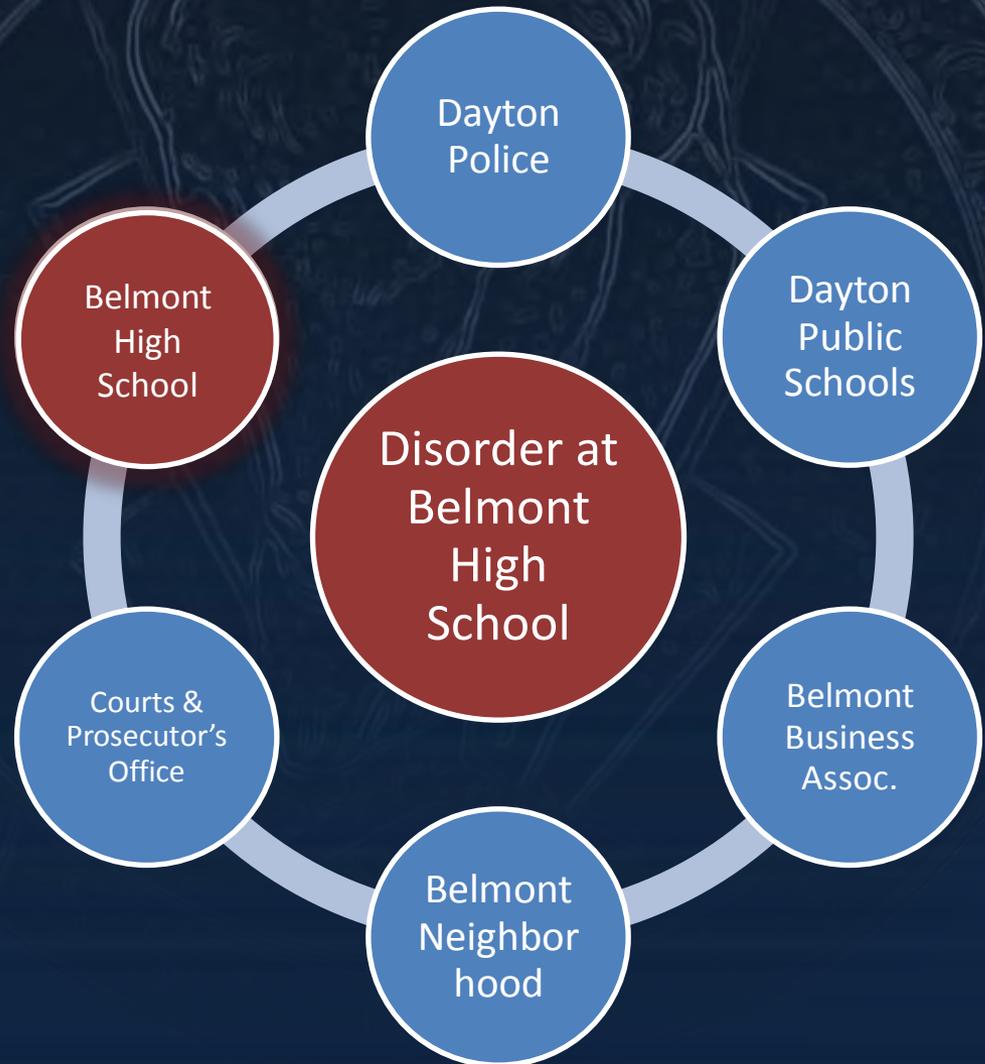
Stakeholders: Courts & Prosecution

- Student offenders were mostly juvenile
 - most punishments were minimal
 - releasing the students back to their parents was typical
- Parents were occasionally fined, but students would reoffend
- Mostly unaware of the problems taking place in the school and surrounding area



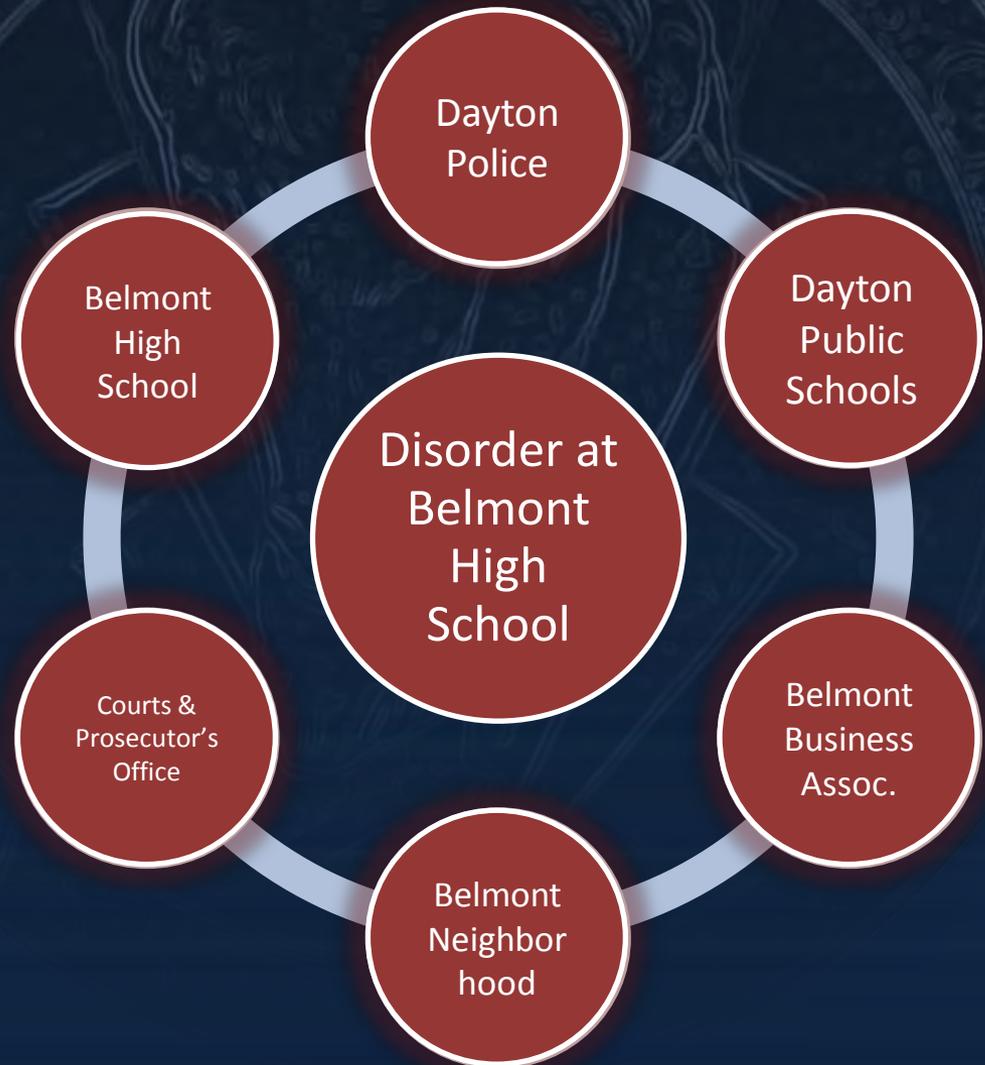
Stakeholders: Belmont High School

- Administration did not believe the school was the problem
- Students were not able to focus strictly on studies
- If disturbances occurred, there were minimal consequences from school or courts
- Once students were off the school grounds, it was **no longer the school's** responsibility, not subject to school discipline



Stakeholders: Belmont High School

- Each stakeholder had a different perception of the problem
- No stakeholders were willing to take responsibility
- Each desired the other would solve the problem



Downward Spiral

- Failing Grades
- Media Attention
- Fights & Arrests

Belmont High School
2323 Mapleview Ave., Dayton, OH 45426-1615 - Grades 9-12 - Montgomery County

2009-2010 School Year Report Card

Your School's Designation: **Academic Watch**

Number of students achieving a score of 12: 0

Performance Index: 70.2

State Indicators

Indicator	Year School Score	Year State Score	2009-2010	2008-2009
3rd Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	32.5%	76.4%		
2. Mathematics	59.2%	78.8%		
4th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	47.3%	81%		
2. Mathematics	61.2%	83.3%		
5th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	36.3%	71.4%		
2. Mathematics	27.7%	67%		
7. Science	21.5%	66.8%		
6th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	55.3%	84.1%		
2. Mathematics	42.3%	77.4%		
7th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	50.7%	80.3%		
2. Mathematics	27.3%	71.1%		
8th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	59.7%	89.8%		
2. Mathematics	38.4%	80.2%		
3. Science	24.4%	54.8%		
9th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	50.3%	82.4%	60%	
2. Mathematics	40.7%	65.8%	66.4%	
3. Science	53.7%	66.7%	84.1%	
10th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	51.1%	82.6%	72%	
2. Mathematics	42.7%	68.6%	78.4%	
11th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	74.2%	82.8%	91.6%	
2. Mathematics	72.6%	81.5%	89.2%	
3. Science	80.8%	87.8%	93.2%	
12th Grade Achievement				
1. Reading	82.7%	87.8%	96.1%	
2. Mathematics	53.3%	72.3%	82.7%	
3. Science	86.4%	92.3%	94.3%	
Other State	76.2%	74.4%	86%	

Chair used as weapon in high school assault

By Kyle Negel | Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 09:35 AM
 DAYTON — Police responded to Belmont High School on Tuesday, March 17, after a male student hit another male student in the back with a chair.

Officers were dispatched at 11:40 a.m. after a teacher reported an assault had occurred, according to a police report. The two students began fighting about hygiene, and one said he had enough, the report said.

The upset student picked up a chair and struck the other student in the back, and the fight escalated, the report said. Two school employees struggled to separate the two, but the aggressor again picked up a desk-and-chair combination and tossed it at the injured student, although it missed him, the report said.

The two continued to fight until separated, and the chair-throwing student had a bloody nose. The other student was removed to the front office, the report said.

Comments

By belmontsucks
 March 24, 2009 7:51 AM | [Link to this](#) [Report abuse](#)

Belmont sucks as a school. It used to be descent, no more, I might move my kids over to Wilbur Wright again.

By JL
 March 26, 2009 11:32 AM | [Link to this](#) [Report abuse](#)

My grandson goes to Belmont, and it seems the principal and teachers CANNOT control their students. Fights are daily. What is wrong with these incompetent people?

By Connie
 March 26, 2009 12:23 PM | [Link to this](#) [Report abuse](#)

That school is unreal My daughter goes there and every other day i pick her up the police is there. They had a dance a few weeks ago and the students who didnt attend the school caused a big fight a teacher was injured . Dayton Police had to spray pepper spray to control the crowd. I want her out of Belmont

Disturbance Broke Out At Dayton High School



Posted: 3:56 pm EST February 12, 2009
 Updated: 5:01 pm EST February 12, 2009

DAYTON, Ohio -- Dayton police spent several hours Thursday afternoon at a local high school after a disturbance broke out.

School officials said there was a fight during lunch in the cafeteria at Belmont High School.

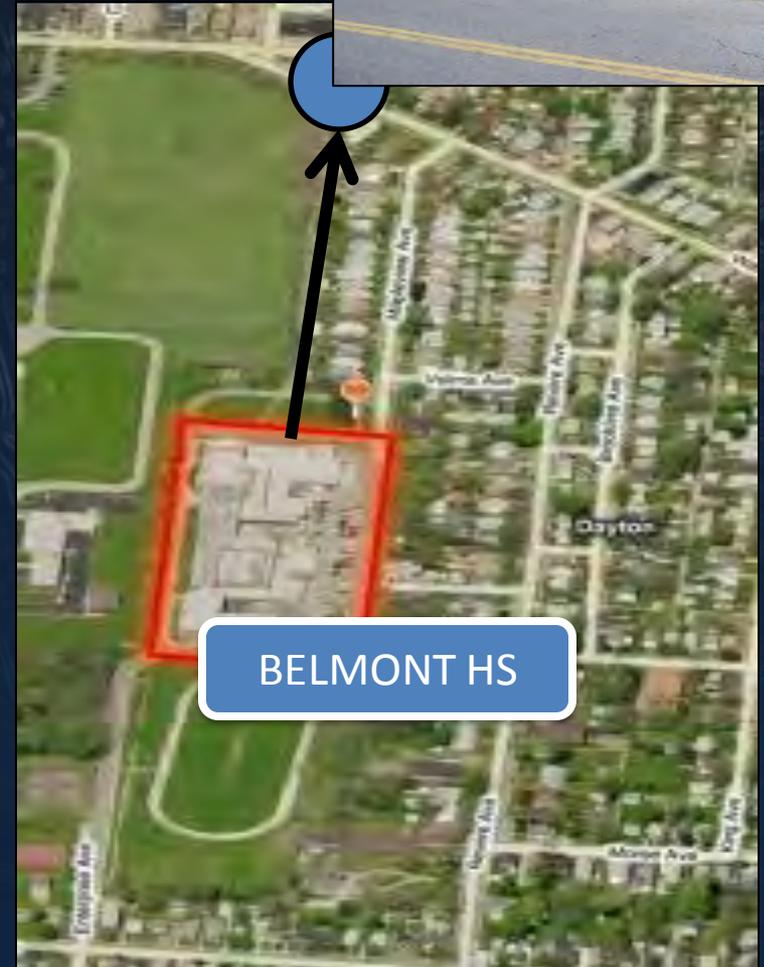
Officers said they arrested a female student.

According to police, officers stayed at the school for several hours to make sure students remained under control.

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Major Incident

- On March 25, 2009, after regular dismissal, students left school grounds, travelled unsupervised through an alley toward this bus stop
- While getting on the bus, a fight broke out between students



Major Incident (continued)

- Officers on patrol witnessed the disturbance
- Students began flooding out of the bus and onto the street
- In an attempt to intervene, officers were assaulted and a Signal 99 was called



Major Incident (continued)

- Multiple crews responded with more than 15 officers
- 3 Belmont students were arrested
- Media publicized public outcry



WDTN's Broadcast



Significant Issues

- Businesses demanded a resolution
- Multiple allegations of police brutality
- Continuous drain on police resources





ANALYSIS

Determining the extent of the problem

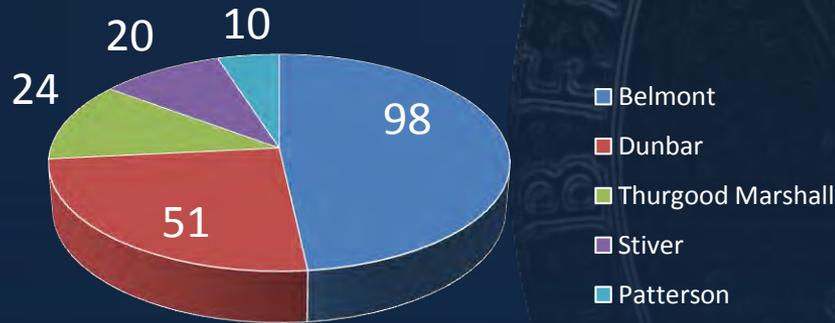
Getting Started

- Dayton Police Department began its analysis in 2008 and researched the effectiveness of traditional policing at all Dayton Public High Schools
- Defining the scope of the analysis:
 1. Analyzed the calls and crime at Belmont and compared to other Dayton Public High Schools
 2. Analyzed what and who only at Belmont
 3. Analyzed what and who in a 1,000 ft. radius around Belmont plus 3 nearby bus stops
- In July 2009 Principal White began his own internal analysis utilizing Belmont High School records

Belmont vs. Other Dayton Public High Schools

2008-2009 School Year

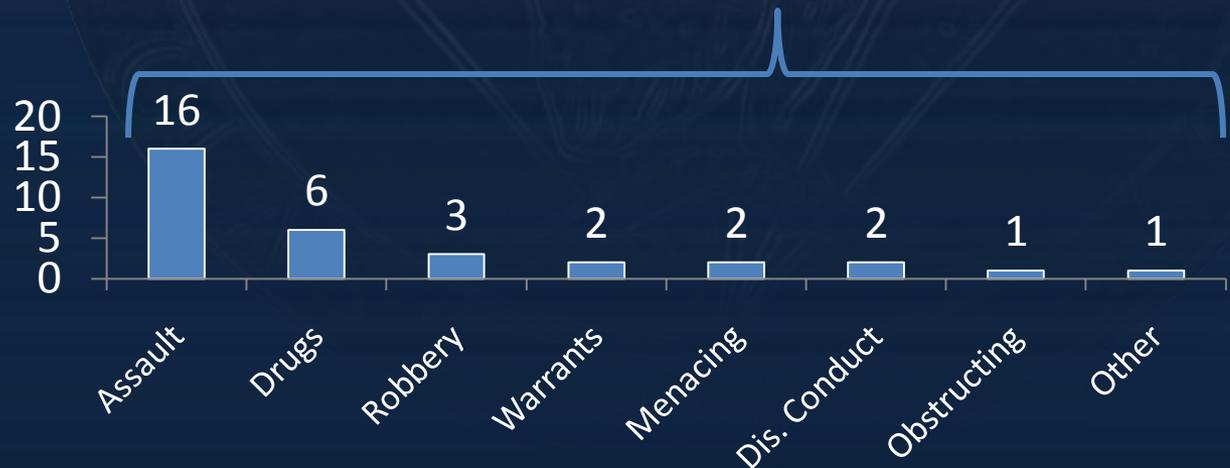
Calls For Service



Arrests



Belmont was disproportionate to other high schools

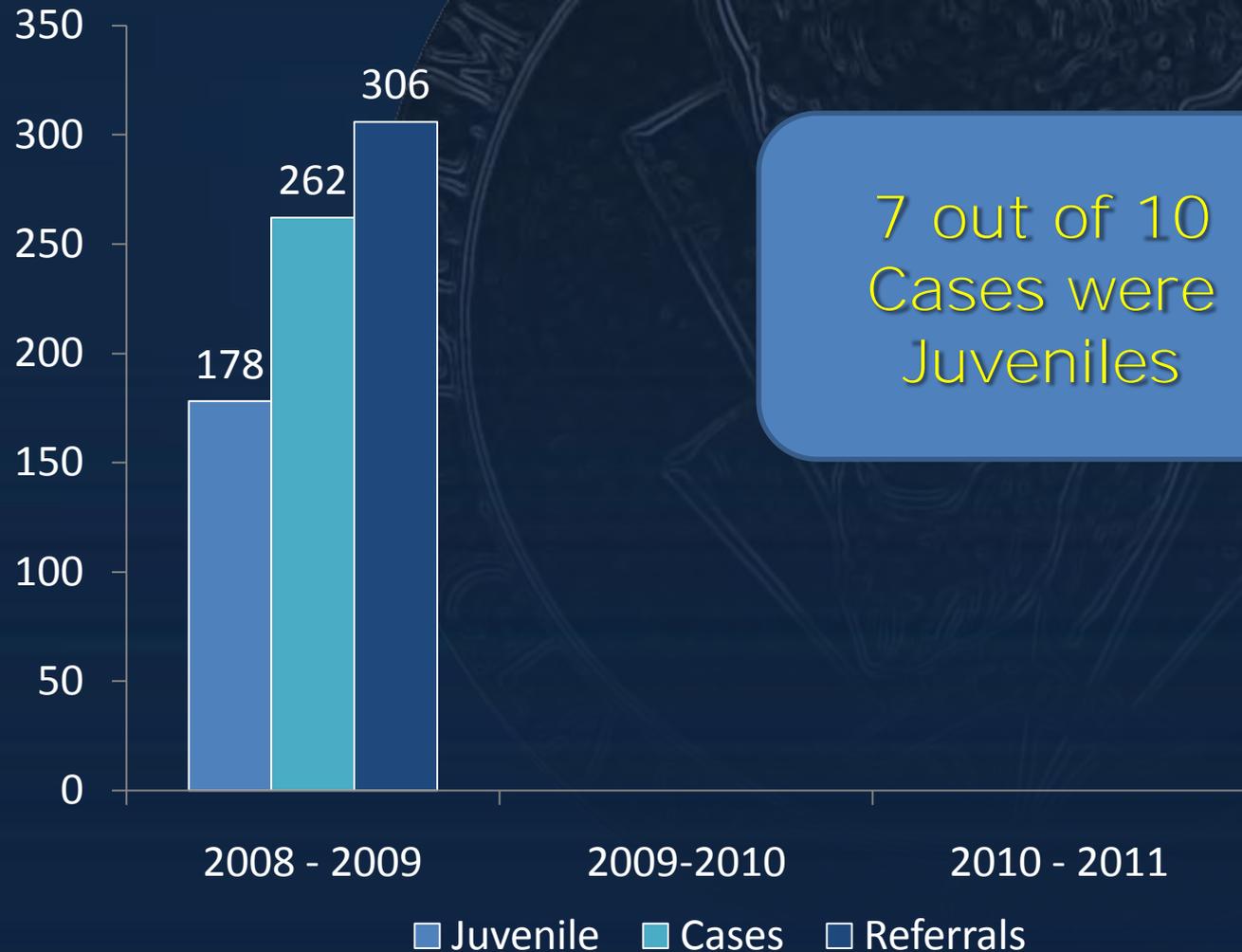


Date range: Sept. 8, 2008 – April 4, 2009

Analyzing Only Belmont



Delinquent & Unruly Students

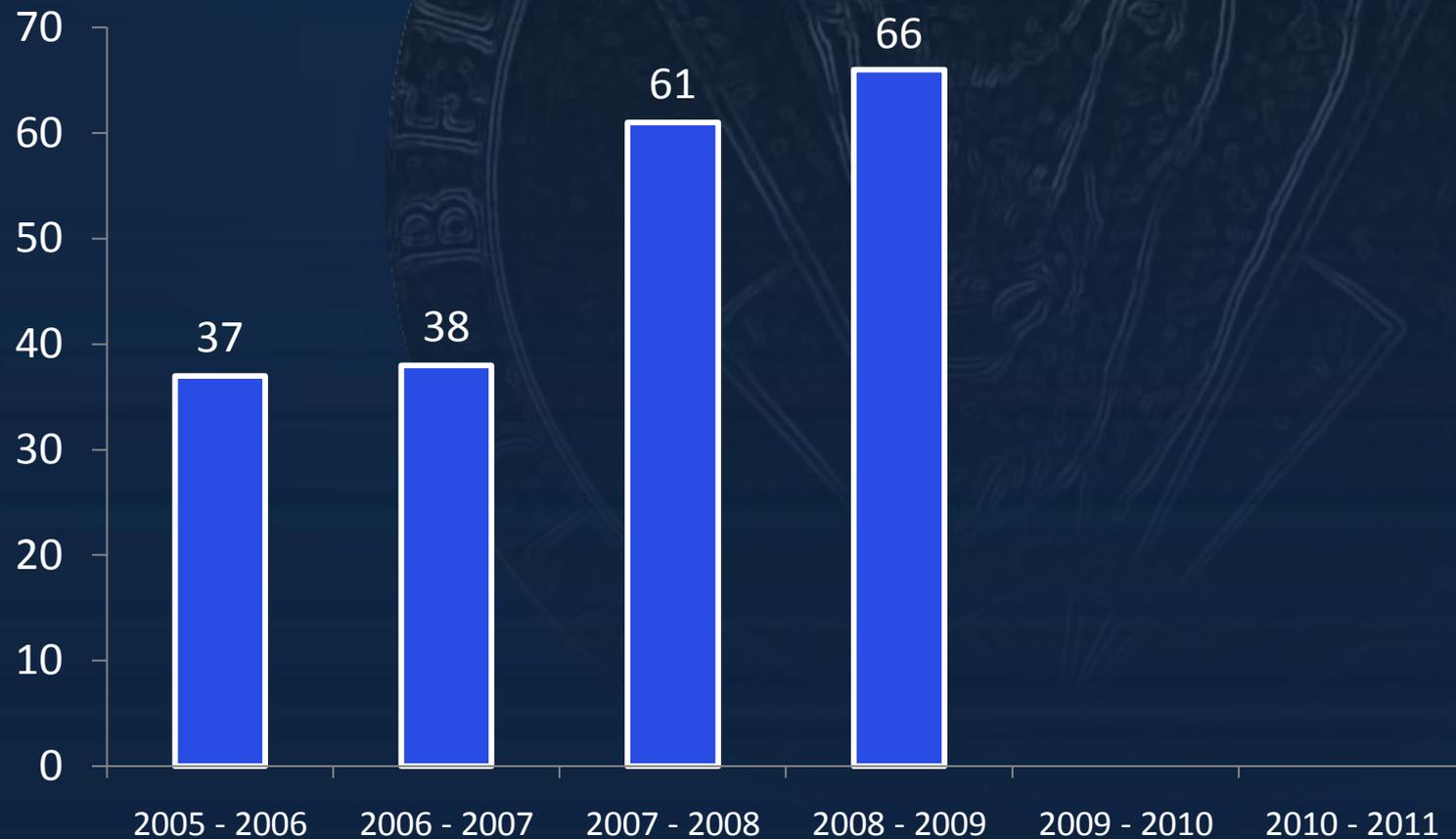


Crimes

Location: Belmont High School, 2323 Mapleview Avenue

Hours: 0700-1700

Date: August 17 - June 6

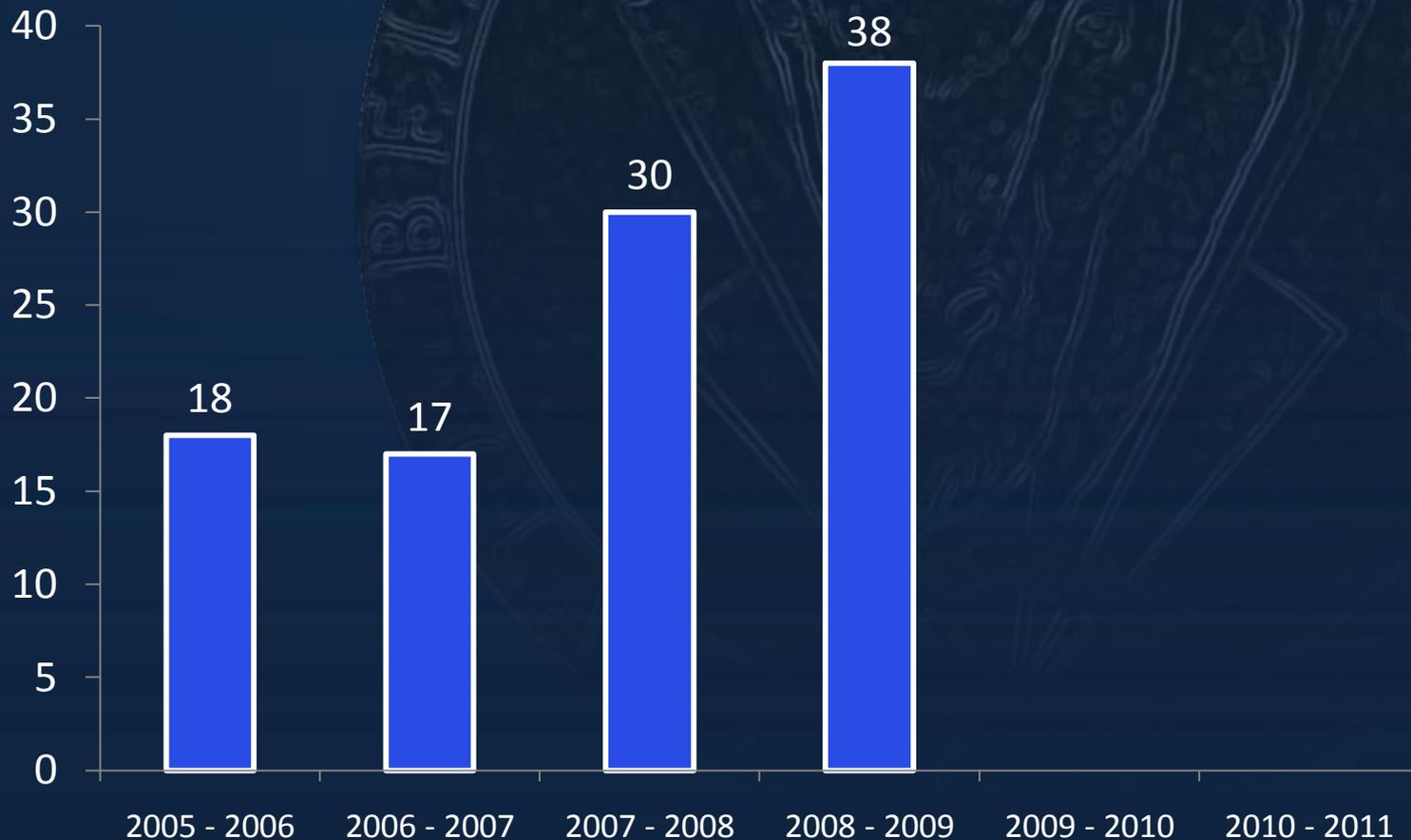


Simple Assaults

Location: Belmont High School, 2323 Maplevue Avenue

Hours: 0700-1700

August 17- June 6

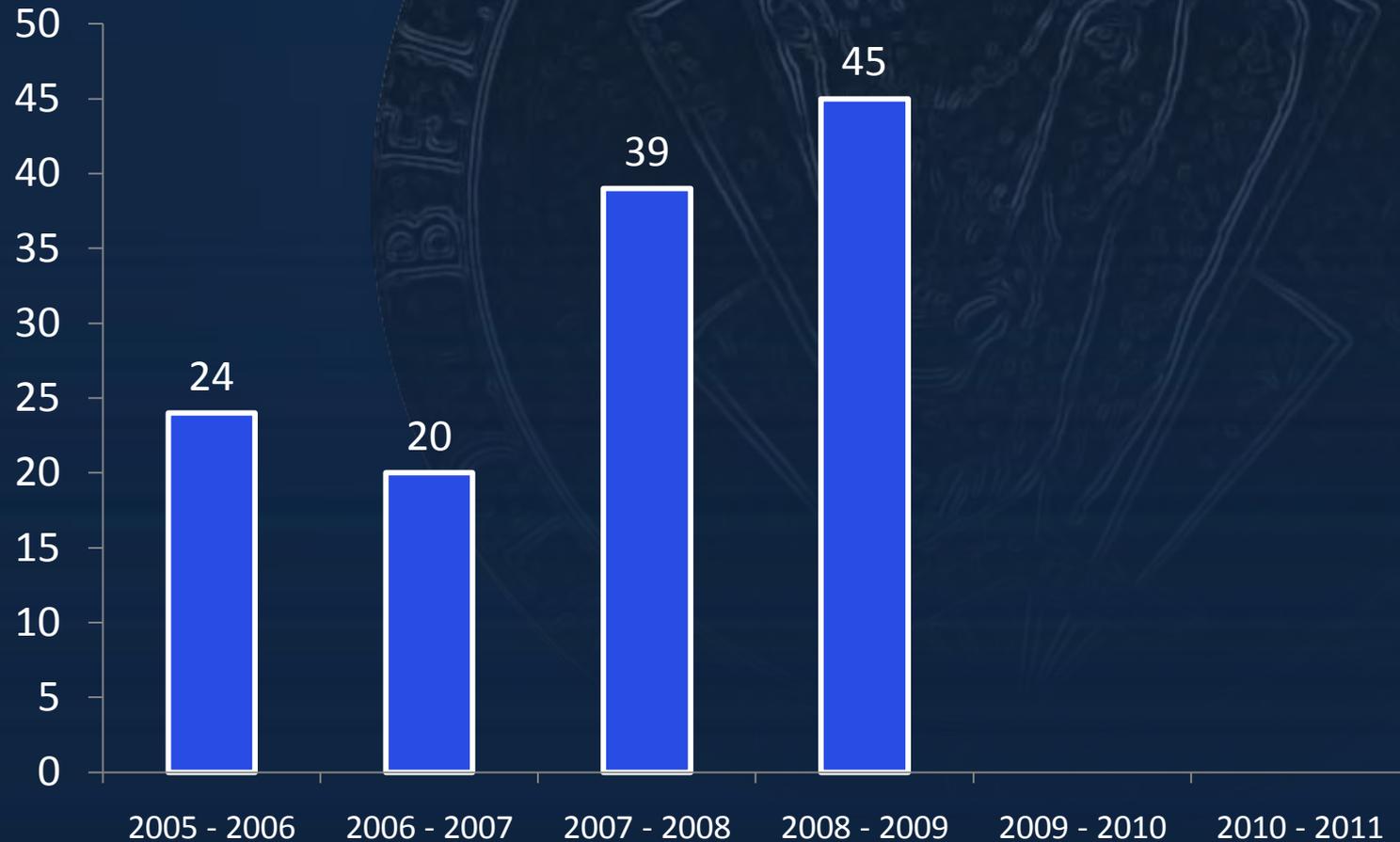


Violent Crimes

Location: Belmont High School, 2323 Maplevue Avenue

Hours: 0700-1700

August 17- June 6



Analyzing Around Belmont

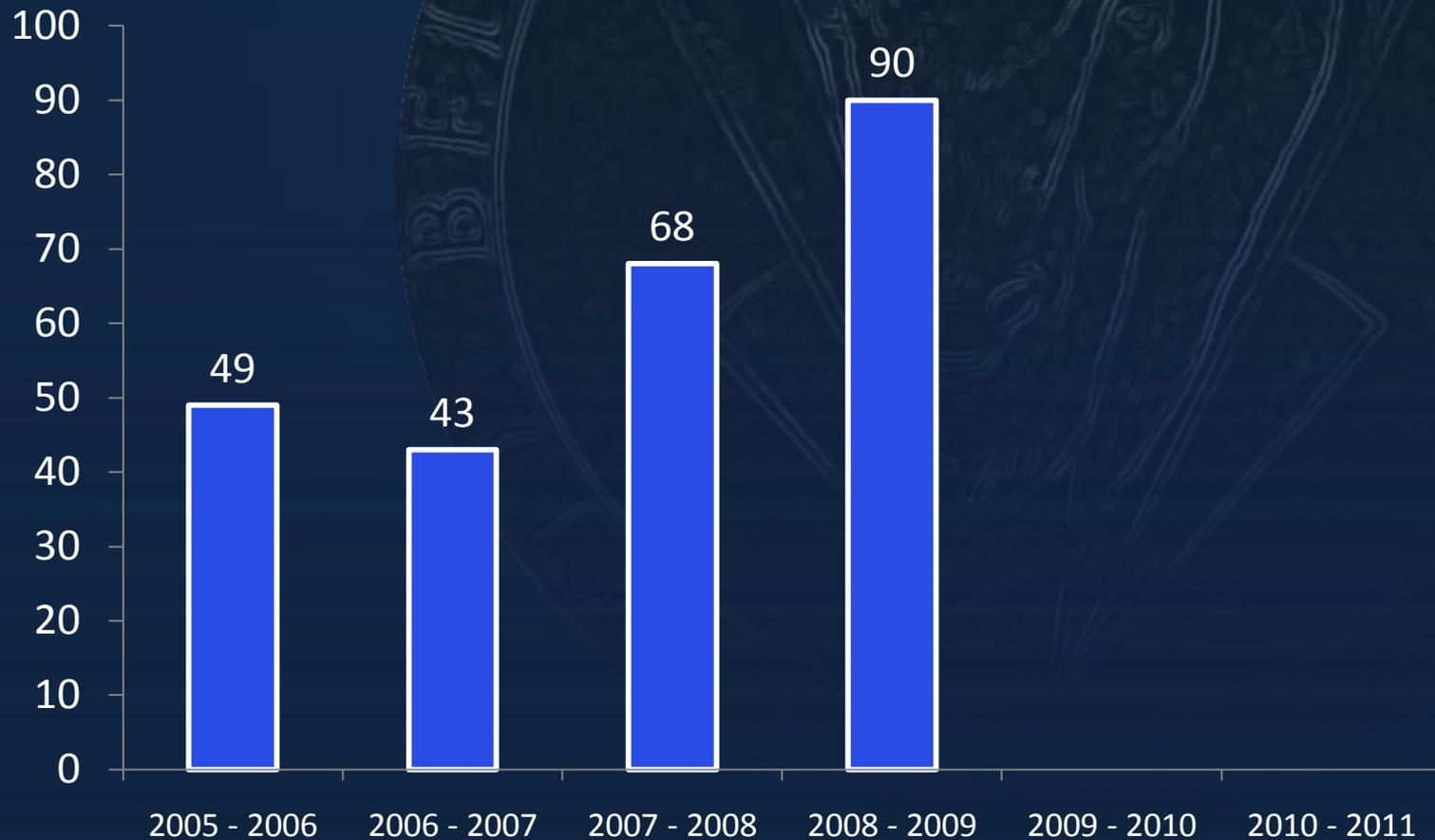


Crimes At and Around

Location: Belmont HS + 1,000 foot radius around + 3 bus stops

Hours: 0700-1700

Date: August 17- June 6



Full Review Meeting: August 10, 2009

From March 2009-August 2009, numerous meetings took place as separate groups. All findings were reviewed together in one meeting.

Attendees were:

- Lt. Chris Williams – 2nd District Commander
- David White - Belmont High School Principal
- Judge Nick Kuntz - Adm. Judge Juvenile Court
- Julie Bruns - Juvenile Prosecutor
- Greg Scott - Legal Director Juvenile Court
- Kurt Stanic – Interim Superintendent - DPS
- Harry Frisby - DPS Security
- Jeff Mims Jr. - School Board President

Key Findings

1. Increasing number of calls for service in and around Belmont resulting in numerous issues and affecting numerous groups

Increasing
CFS

DISORDER

Key Findings

2. Small number of students were influencing or directly causing large number of crimes; especially assaults



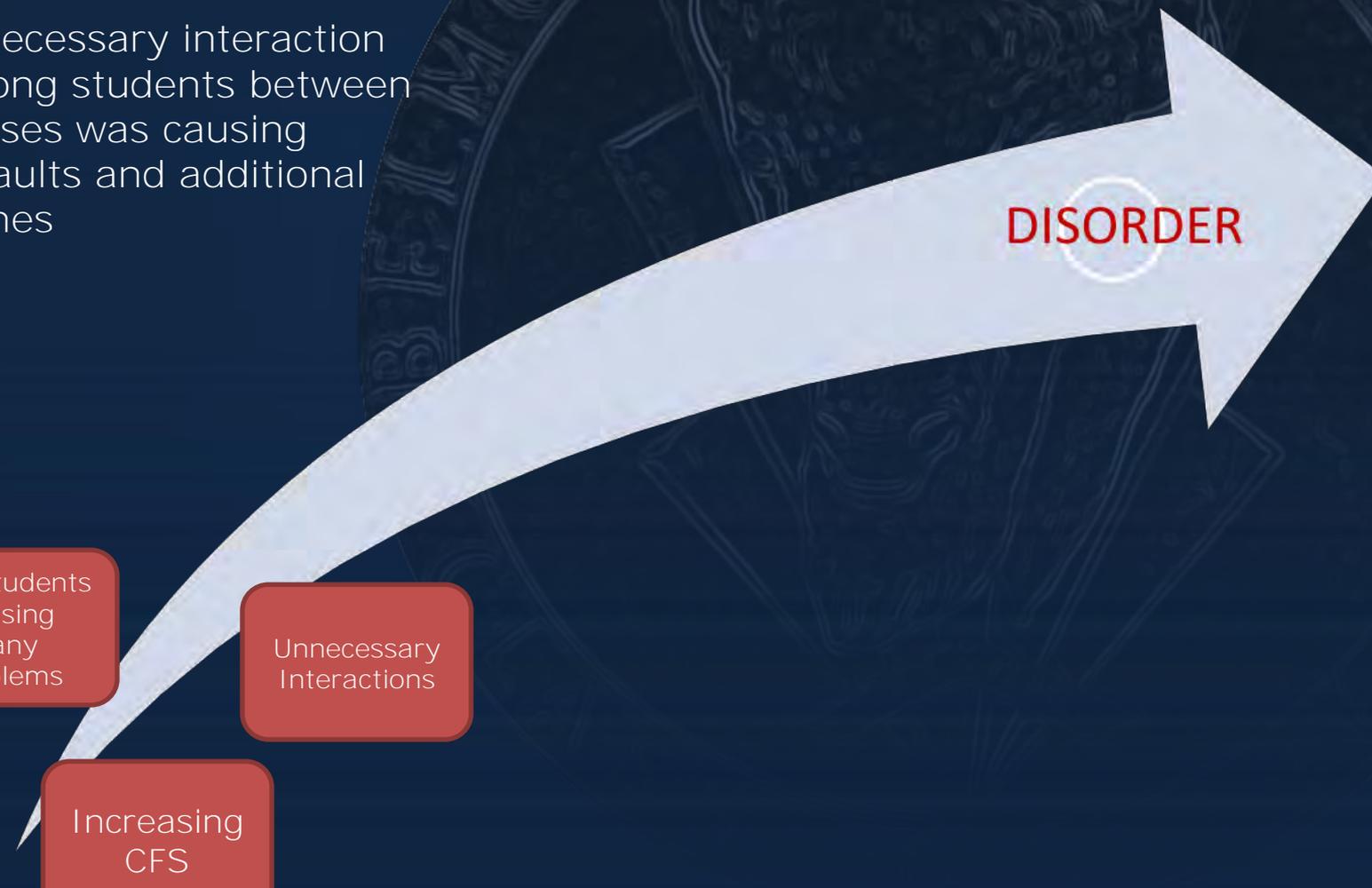
DISORDER

Few Students
Causing
Many
Problems

Increasing
CFS

Key Findings

3. Unnecessary interaction among students between classes was causing assaults and additional crimes



DISORDER

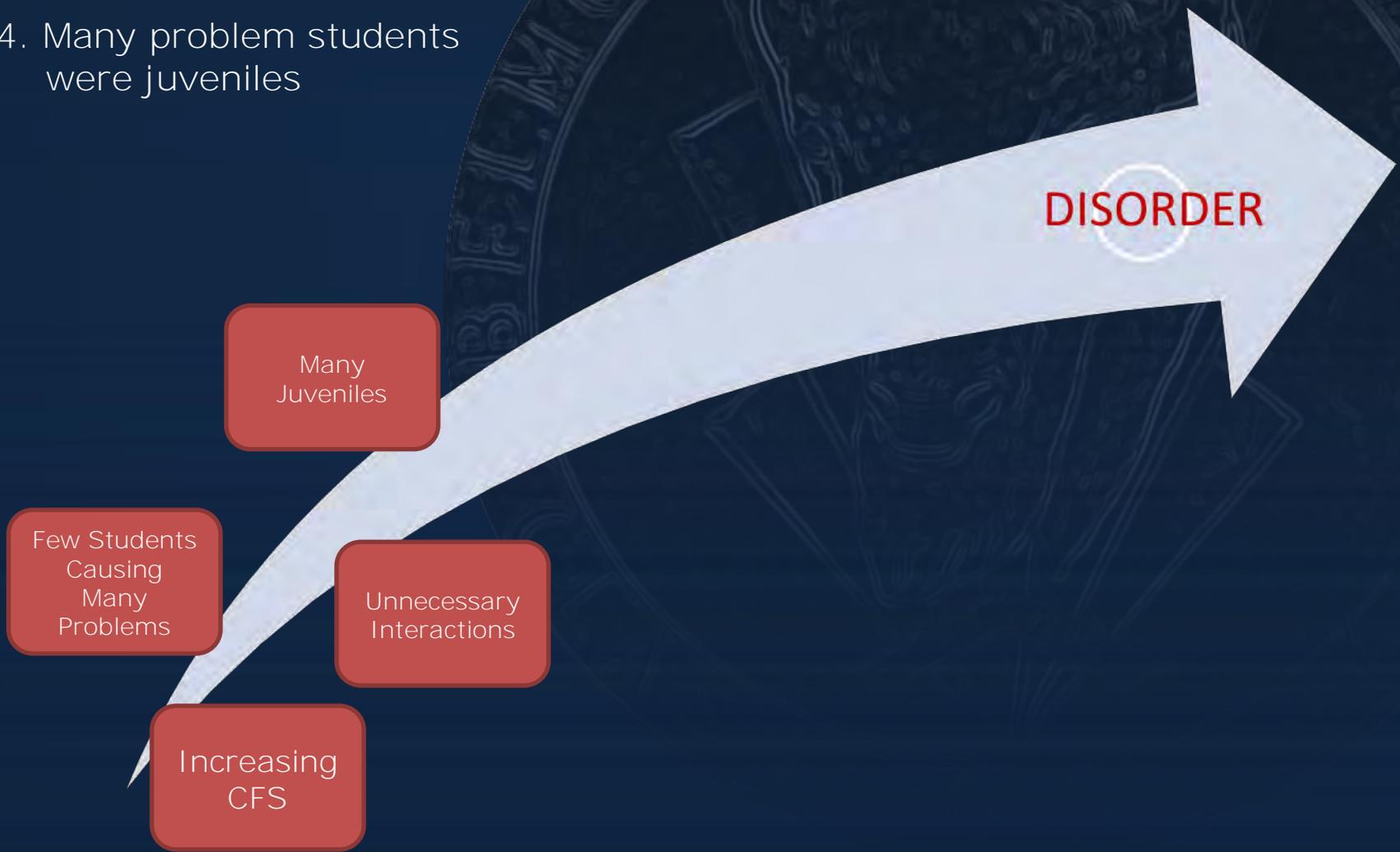
Few Students
Causing
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Problems

Unnecessary
Interactions

Increasing
CFS

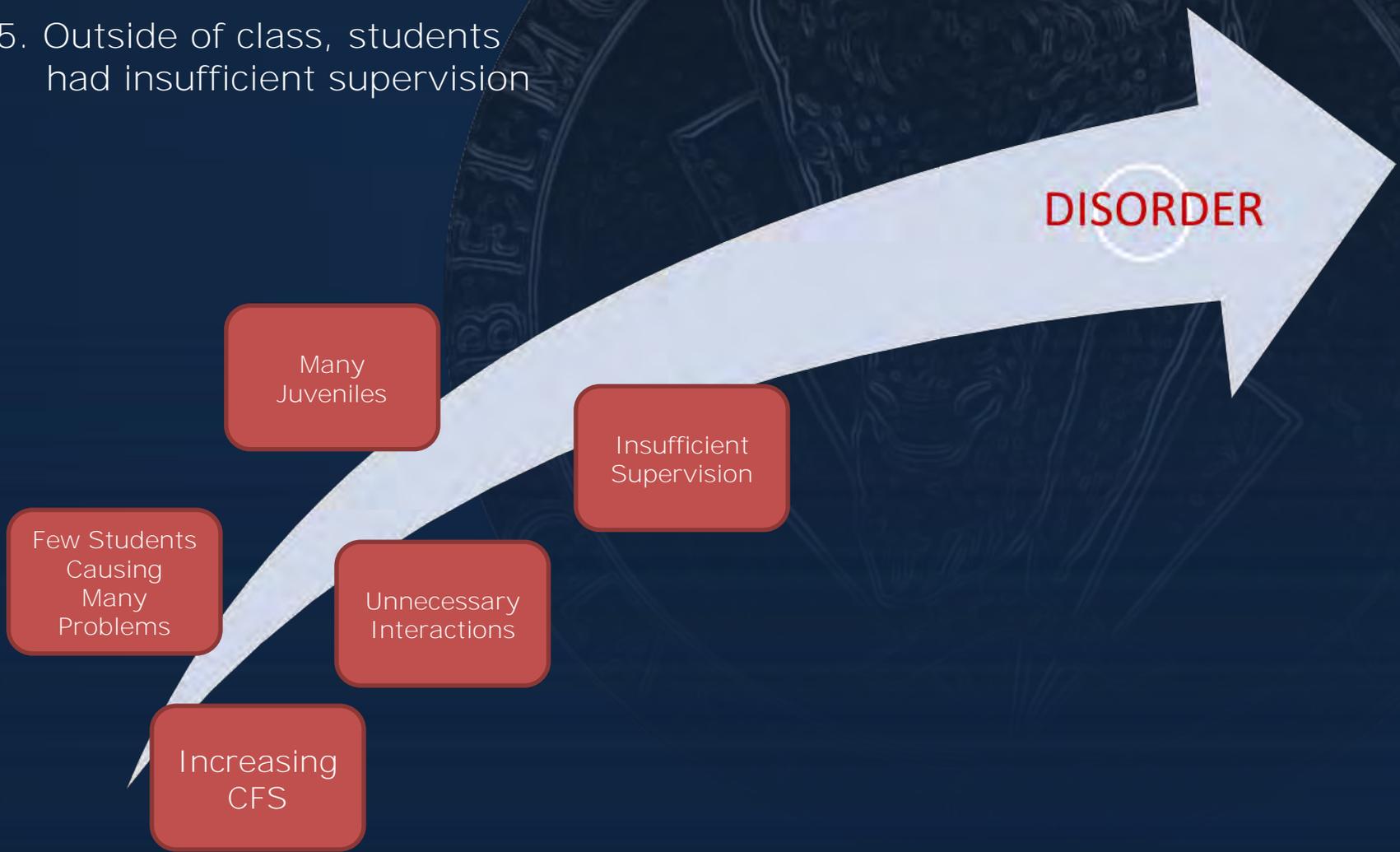
Key Findings

4. Many problem students were juveniles



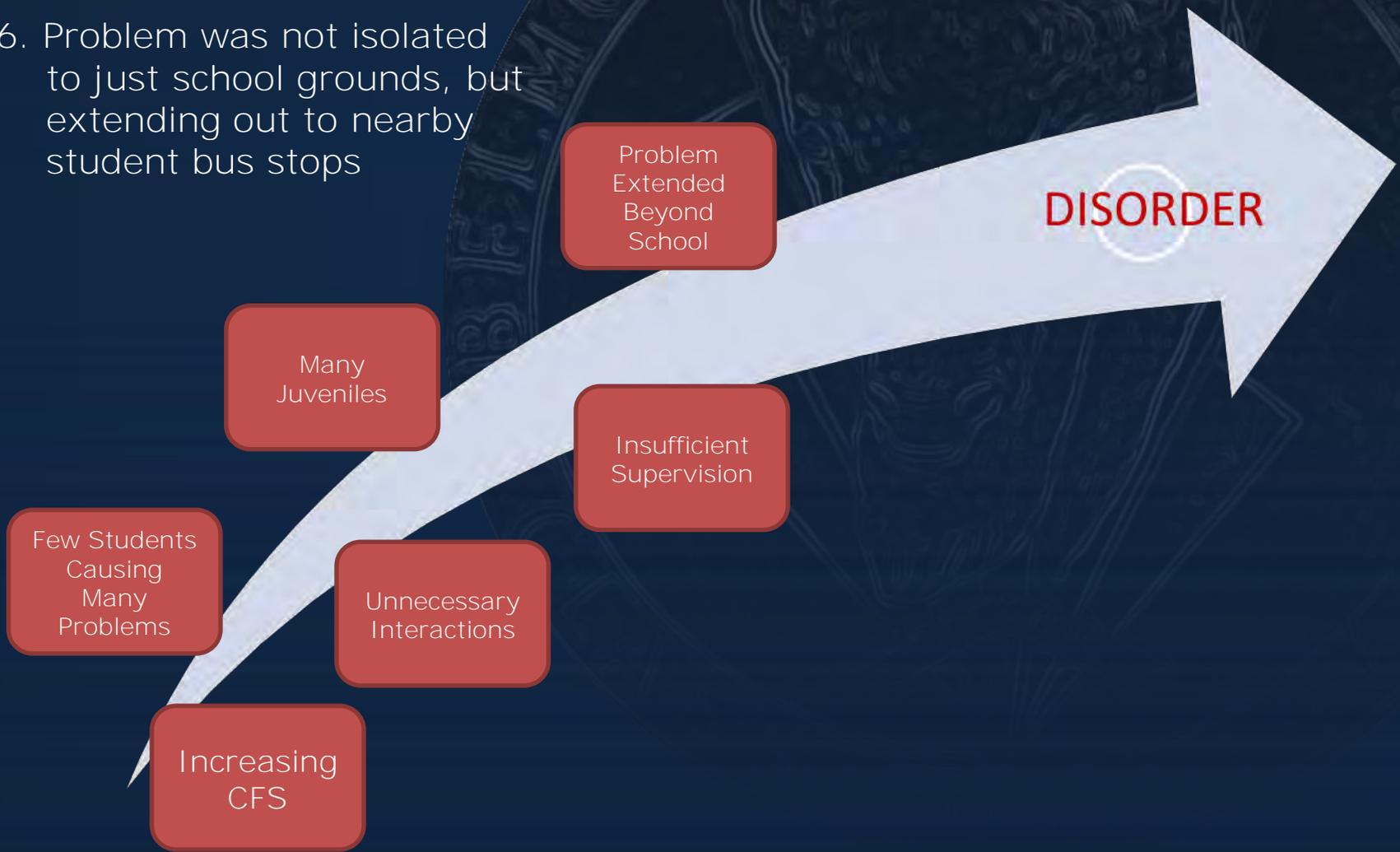
Key Findings

- 5. Outside of class, students had insufficient supervision



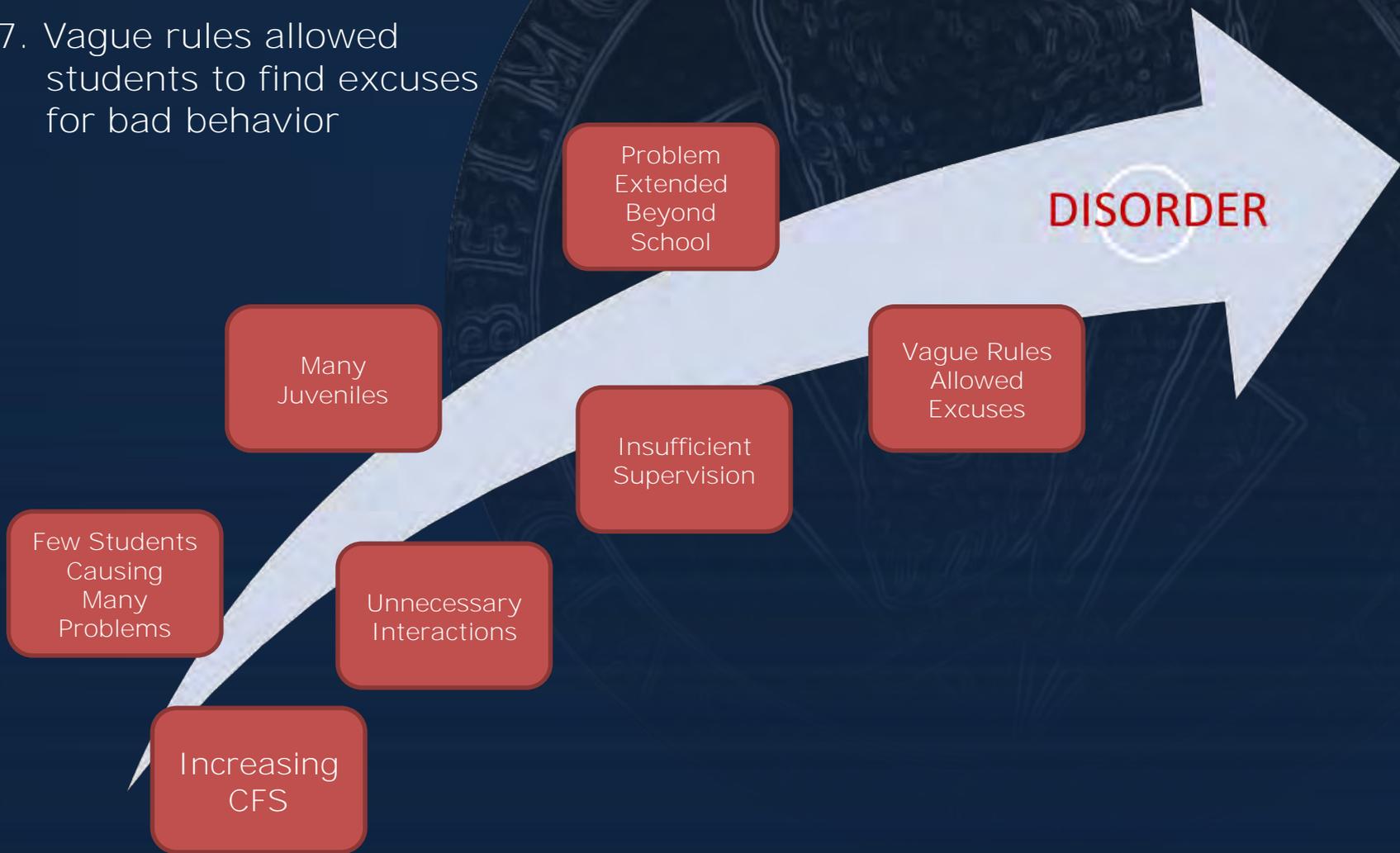
Key Findings

6. Problem was not isolated to just school grounds, but extending out to nearby student bus stops



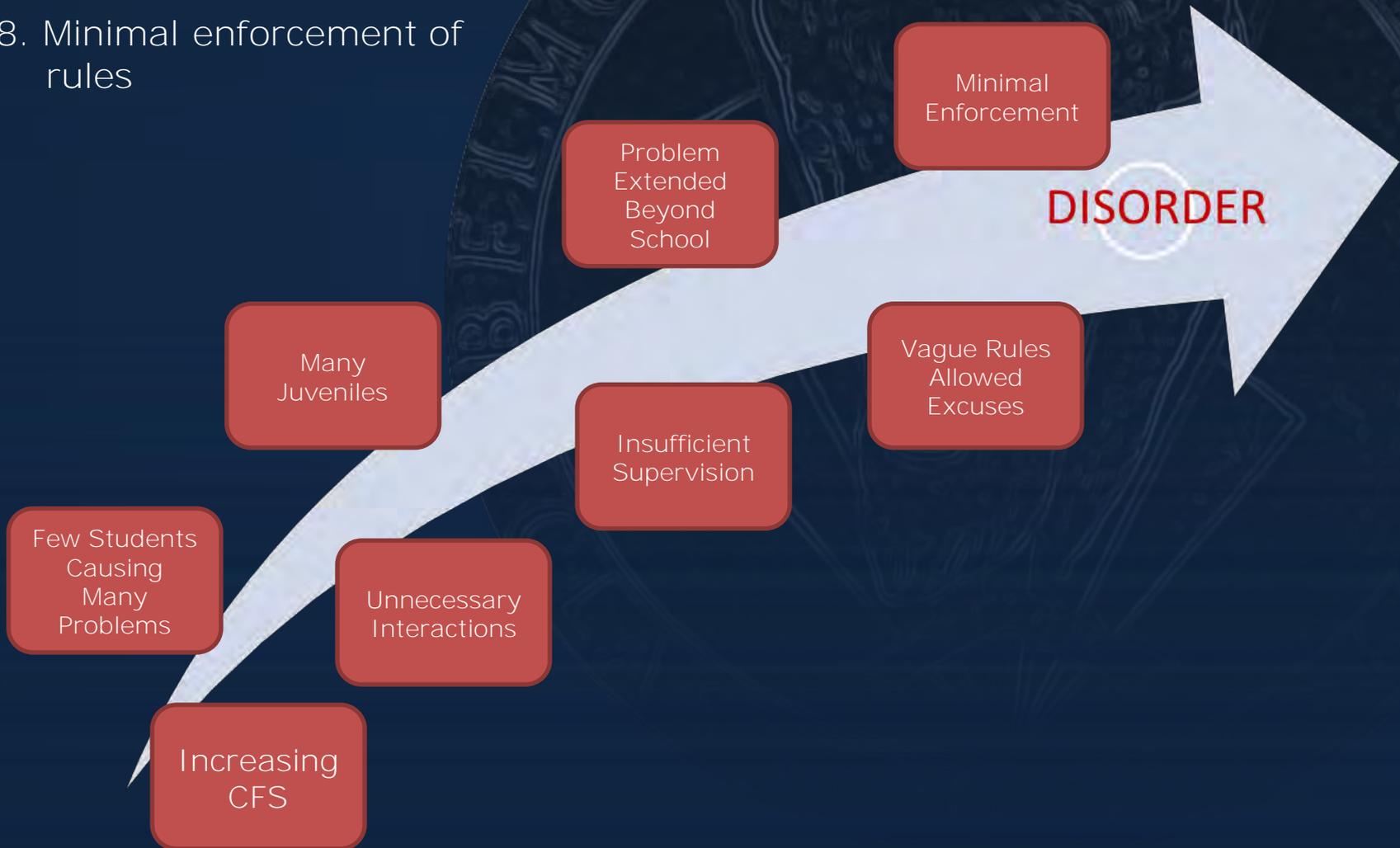
Key Findings

7. Vague rules allowed students to find excuses for bad behavior



Key Findings

8. Minimal enforcement of rules



A tall, dark tower with a large bell at the top. The word "BELMONT" is written vertically on the tower. The background shows a building with windows.

RESPONSE

Getting Belmont Back On Track

Resolution Strategies to Key Findings

1. Increasing number of calls for service in and around Belmont resulting in numerous issues and affecting numerous groups



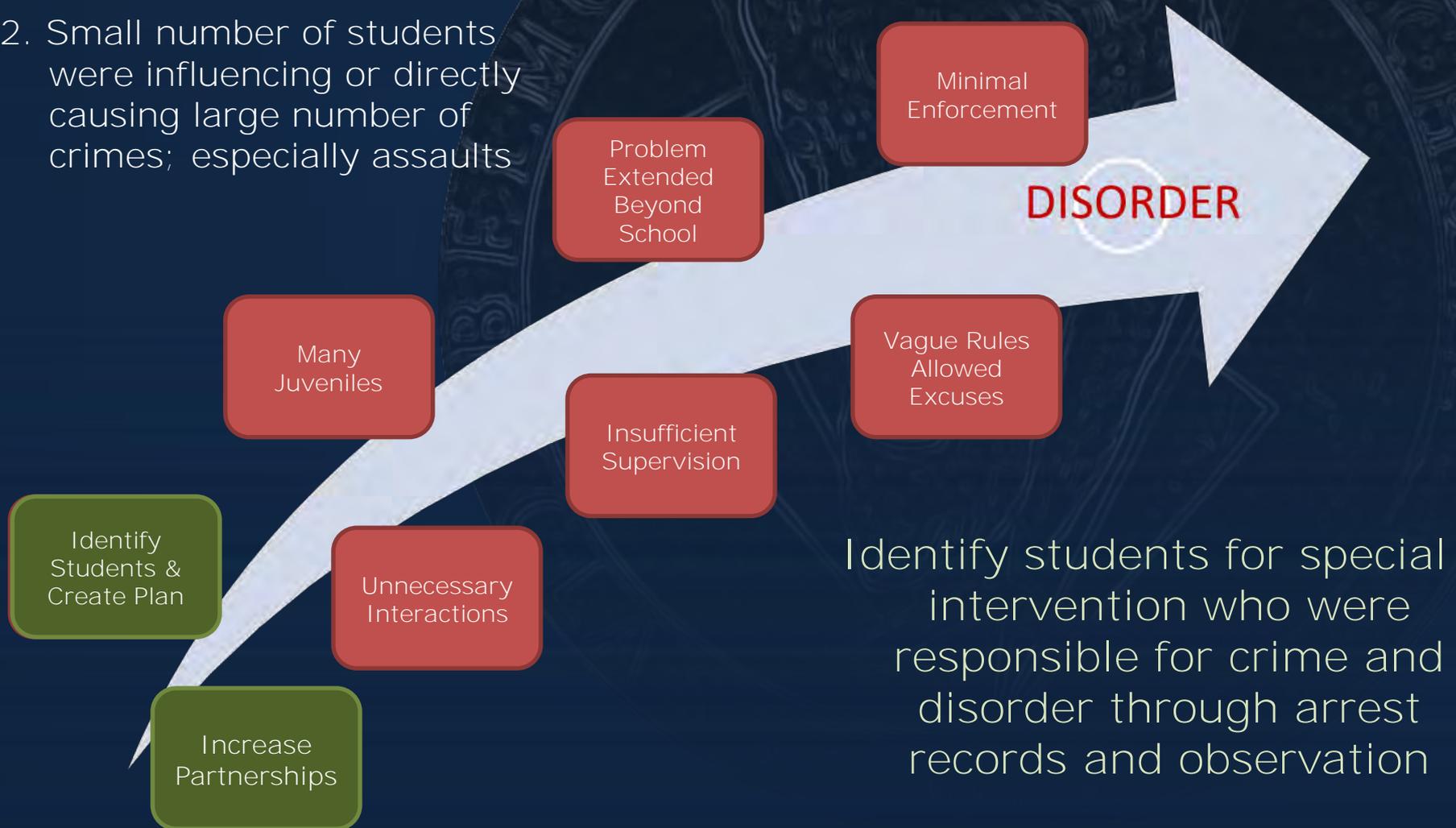
Increasing Partnerships

- Conducted meetings with:
 - Police Officers
 - Former/Present Principal
 - DPS Security
 - Neighborhood Association
 - Belmont Business Association
 - Juvenile Court/Prosecutors Office
 - DPS Board Members

Goal was to raise awareness, establish communication channels, and develop a plan to address the problem from many angles

Resolution Strategies to Key Findings

2. Small number of students were influencing or directly causing large number of crimes; especially assaults

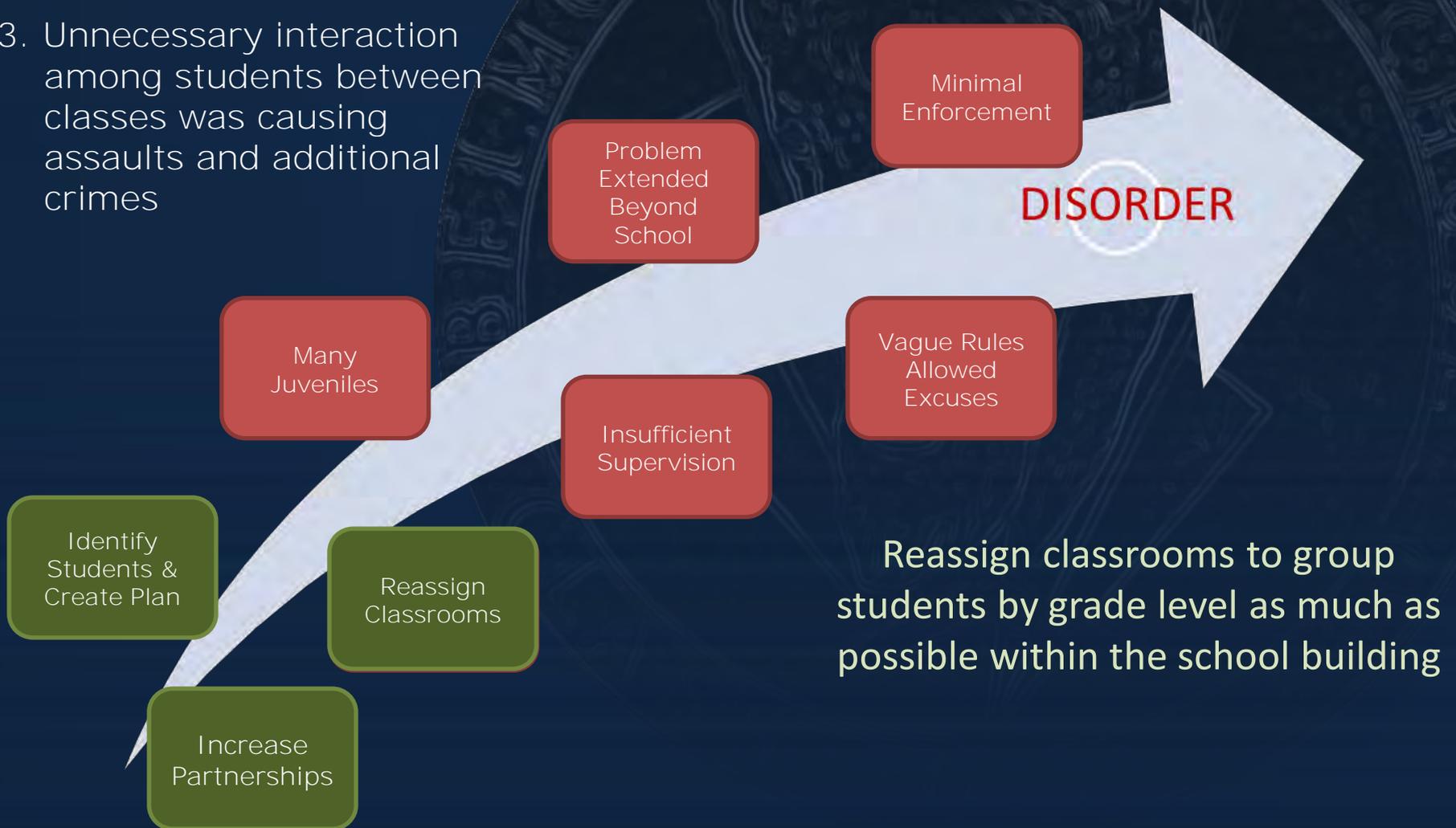


Problem Students

- In addition to arrest records, Principal White gained feedback from his faculty to identify more than 240 problem students
- Each received a letter before the 2009 school year stating their behavior was no longer welcome at Belmont
- If the student was not willing to change, assistance was provided to place students in a new school where their needs could be better addressed

Resolution Strategies to Key Findings

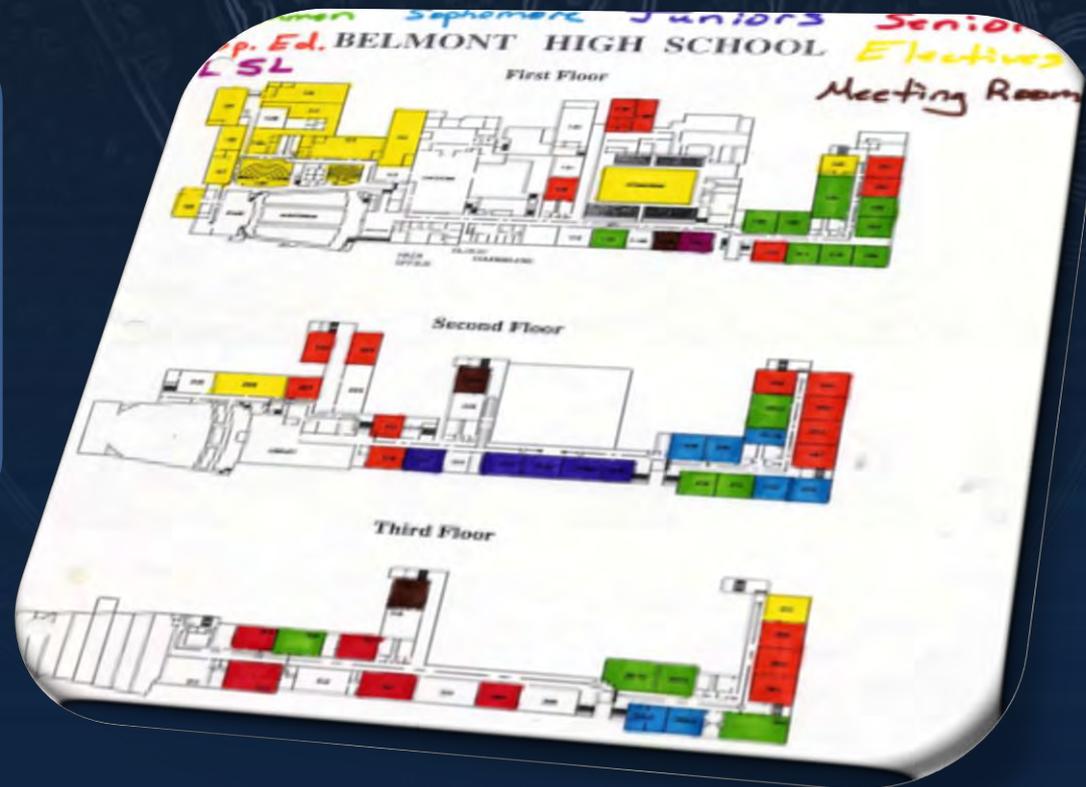
3. Unnecessary interaction among students between classes was causing assaults and additional crimes



Reassigning Classrooms

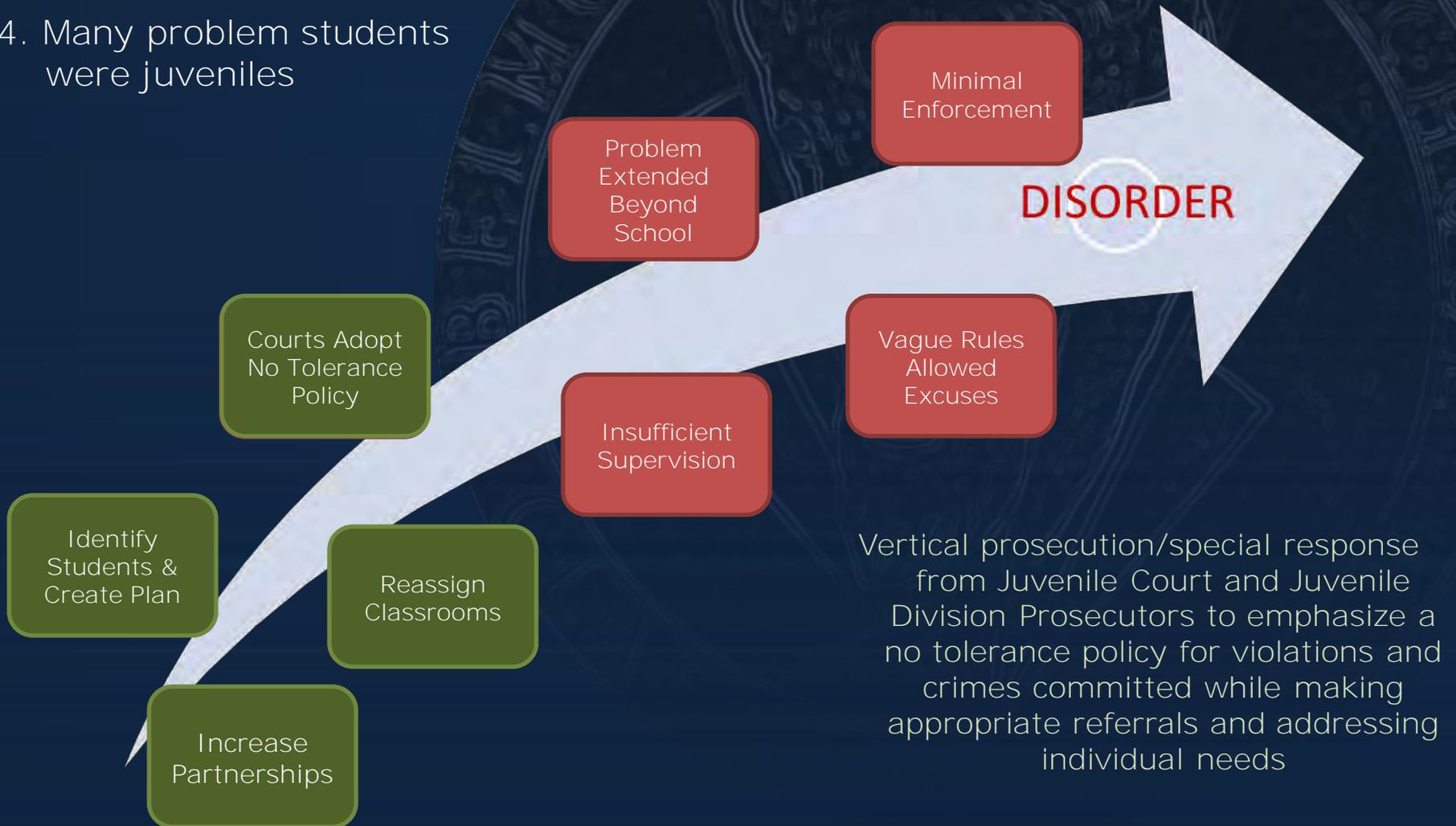
- The goal was to reduce unnecessary interactions

Analysis of the floor plans and class schedule revealed that students from different grade levels were constantly crossing each other's paths causing fights



Resolution Strategies to Key Findings

4. Many problem students were juveniles



Intervention Strategies

- Juvenile court agreed to hold parents, guardians, custodians and offenders responsible for the **student's**:
 - Attendance
 - Incidents at school
 - Academic performance
- Adopted a **“No Tolerance”** policy for addressing problem students while making appropriate referrals and addressing individual students via intervention strategies

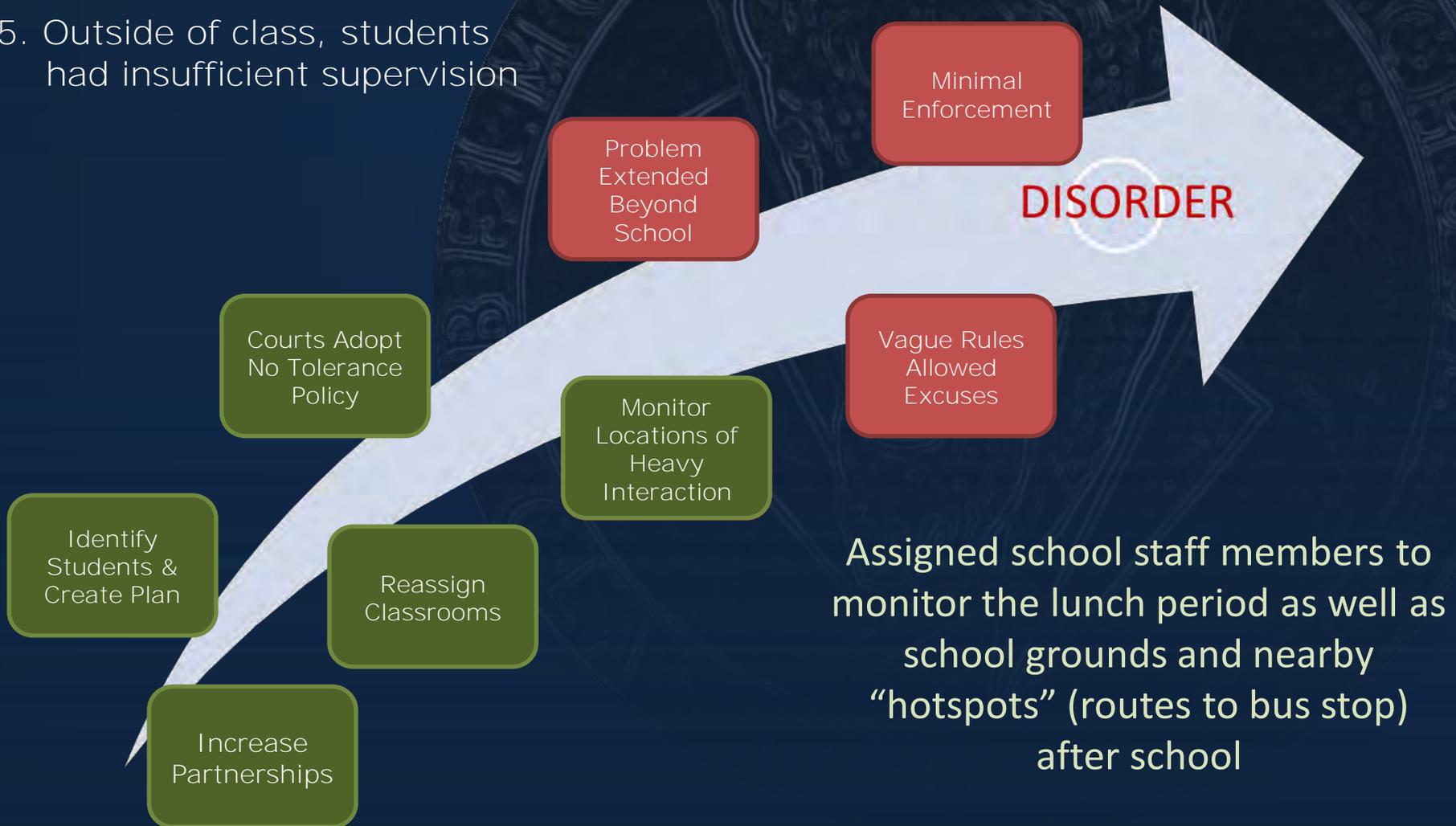
Intervention Strategies (continued)

- Juvenile courts used 14 different intervention strategies
 - The five most recognized strategies were:
 - Work Program Diversion
 - Homework/Chores Ordered
 - Restitution/Community Service
 - Probation
 - **Ordered to Attend School**

Parents held responsible for students actions

Resolution Strategies to Key Findings

5. Outside of class, students had insufficient supervision



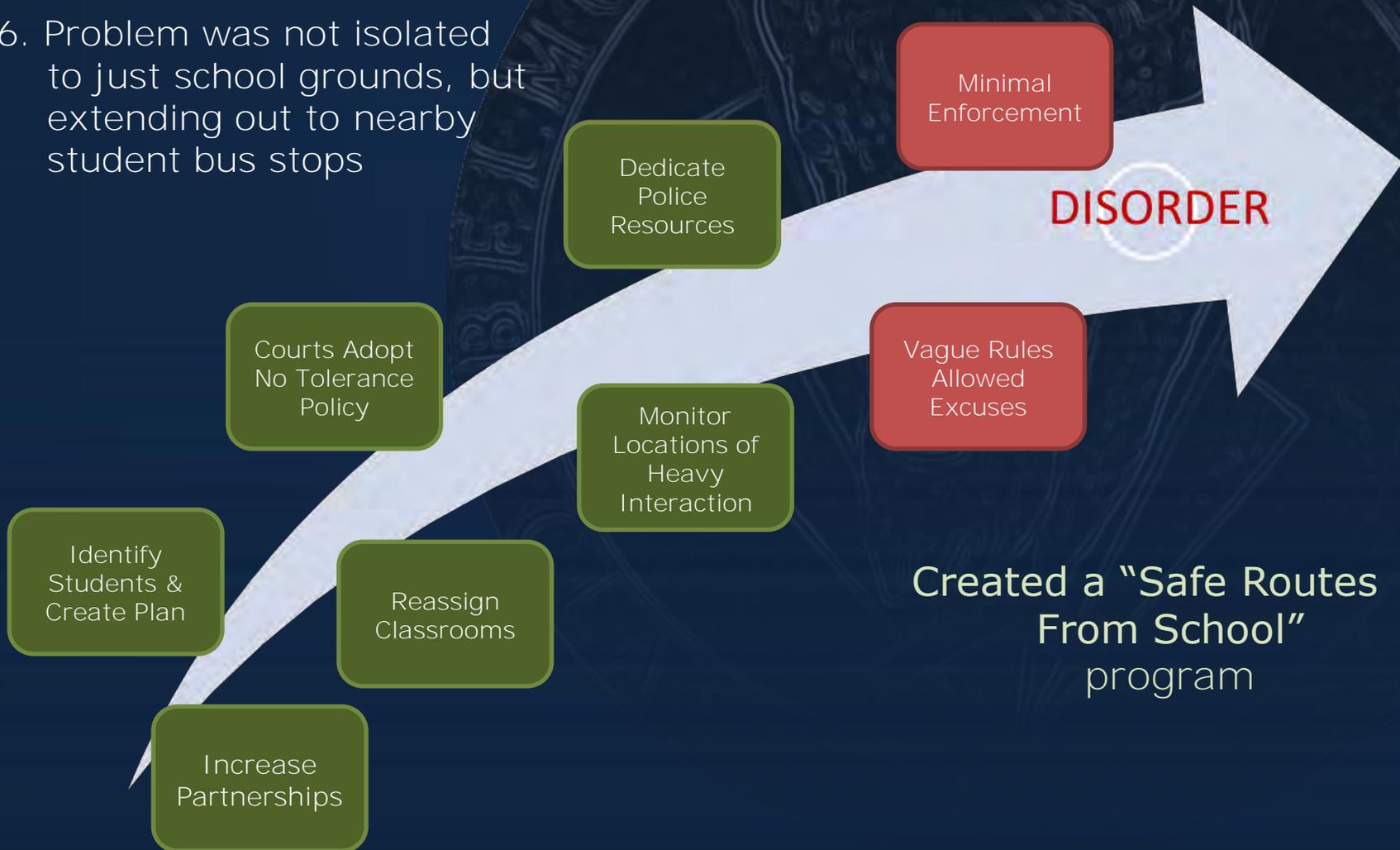
Increasing Guardianship

- Extra monitoring of heavy interaction times took place:
 - On School Grounds
 - Lunch
 - Hallways
 - Off School Grounds
 - Bus Stops
 - Alleyways
 - During School Hours
 - After School Hours



Resolution Strategies to Key Findings

6. Problem was not isolated to just school grounds, but extending out to nearby student bus stops



Increased Patrol

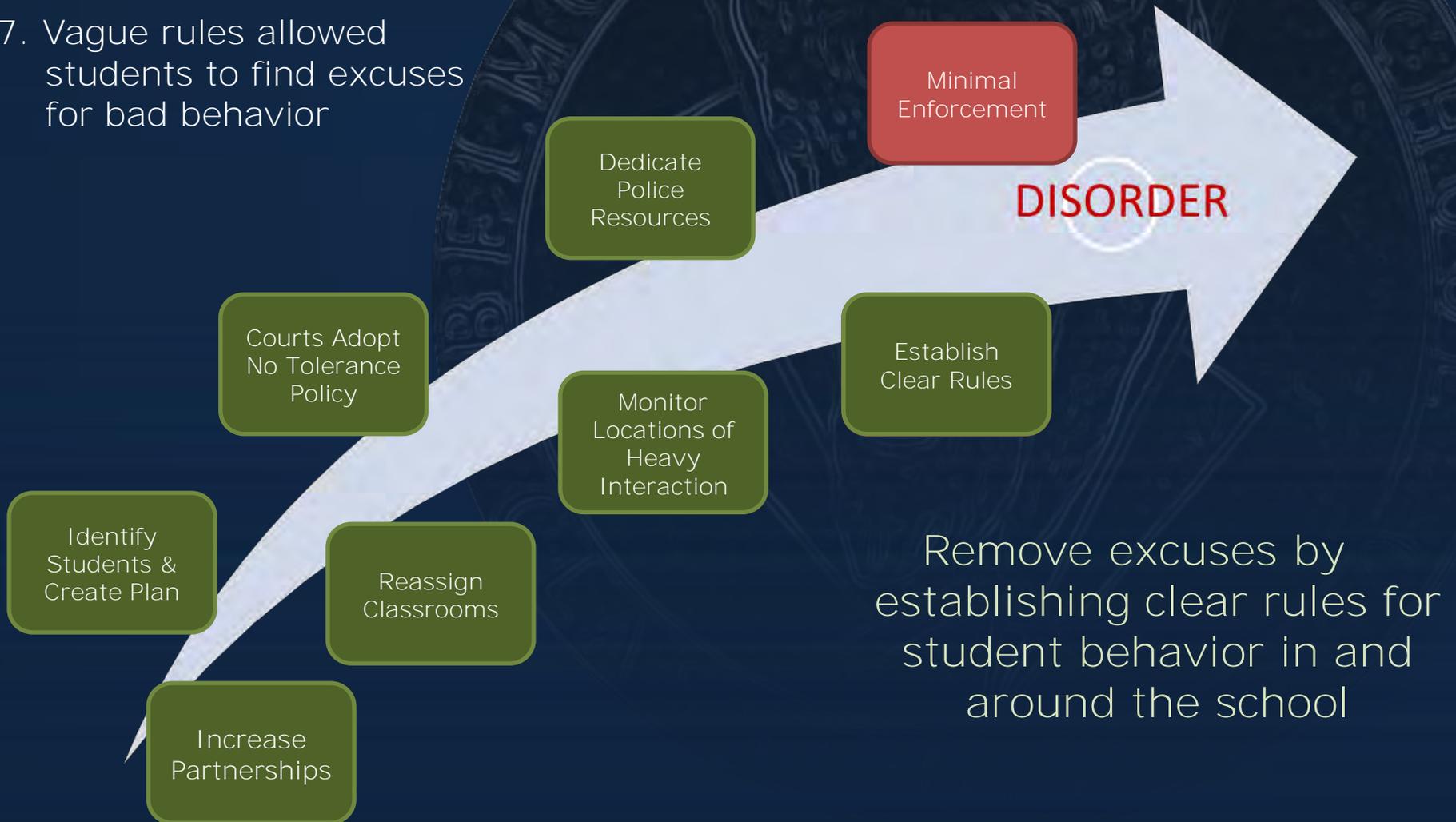
Without utilizing overtime, officers:

- Monitored hot spots
- Patrolled near school during and after school hours; especially while students walked to bus stops
- Assessed situation every 2 weeks



Resolution Strategies to Key Findings

7. Vague rules allowed students to find excuses for bad behavior



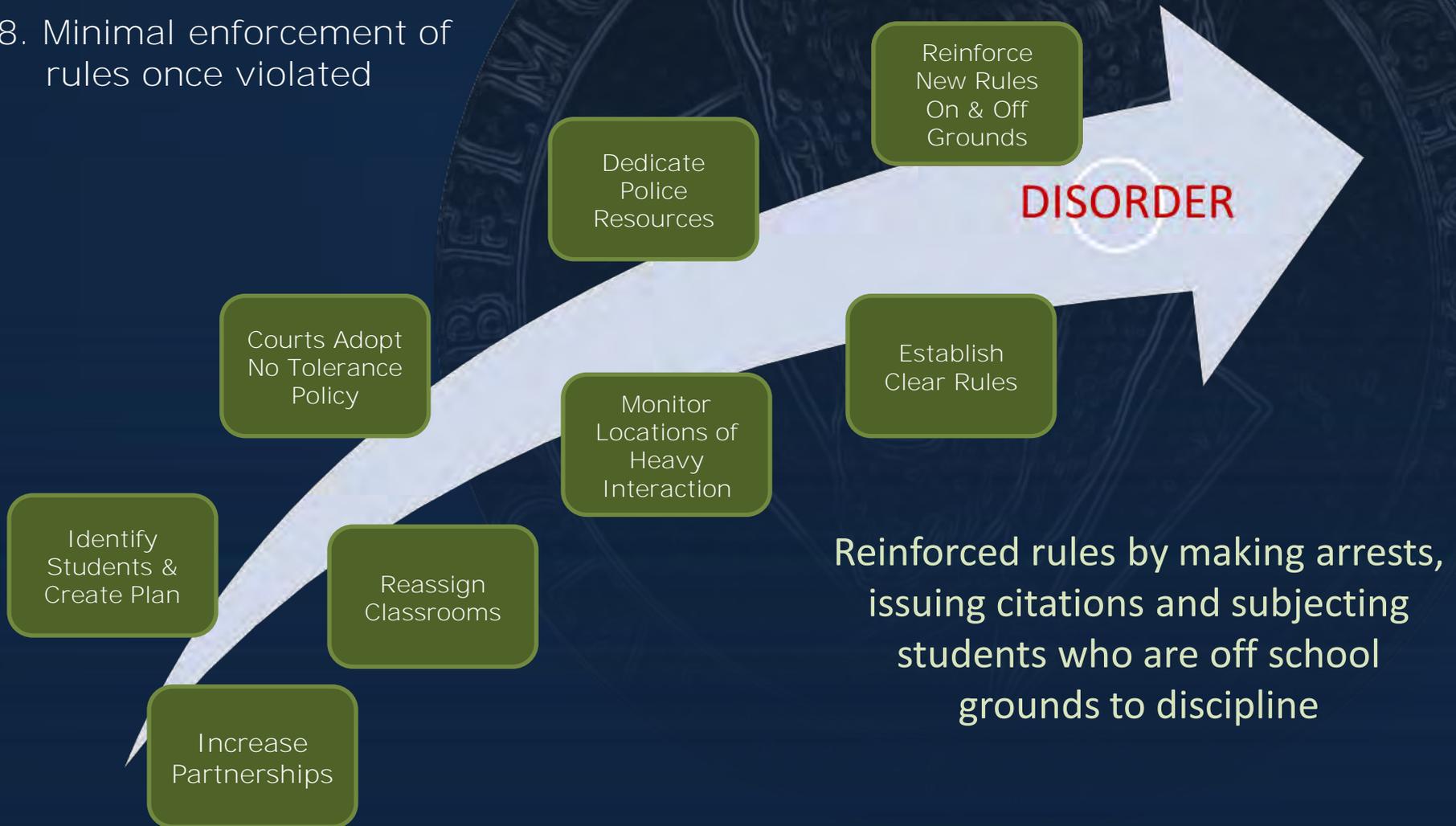
Setting Student Expectations

- Throughout the school, Principal White and his staff made sure students were aware of what was expected of them
- Signage was placed on school grounds to continuously remind the students



Resolution Strategies to Key Findings

8. Minimal enforcement of rules once violated



Enforcing The Rules

- All parties were ready to enforce the rules and hold the students accountable for their actions
- Occurrences taking place off school grounds could still result in expulsion or some other form of discipline from the school





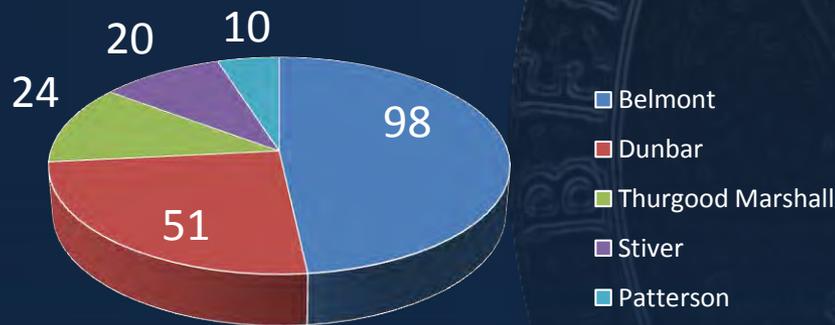
ASSESSMENT

Verifying the impact of the intervention

Belmont vs. Other High Schools

2008-2009 School Year

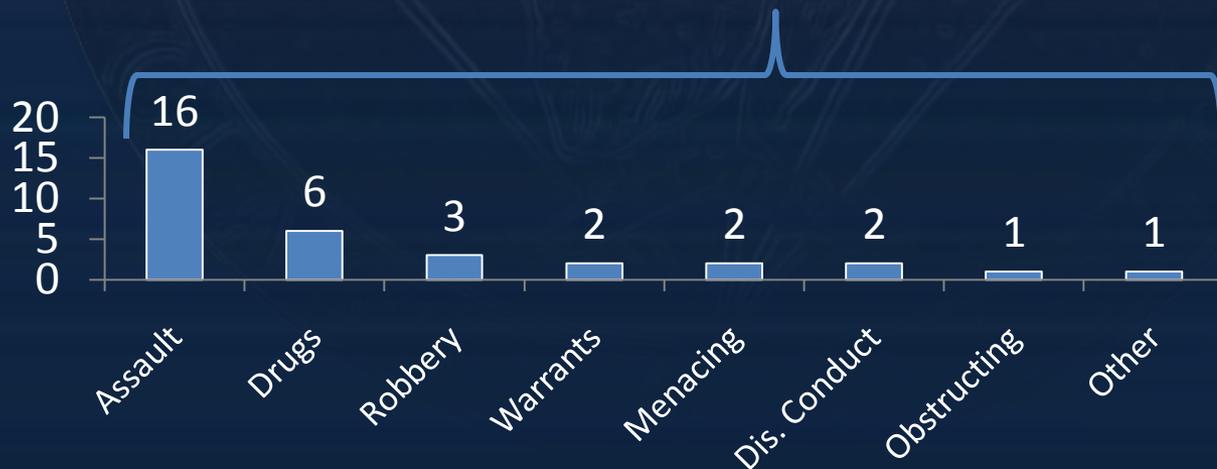
Calls For Service



Arrests



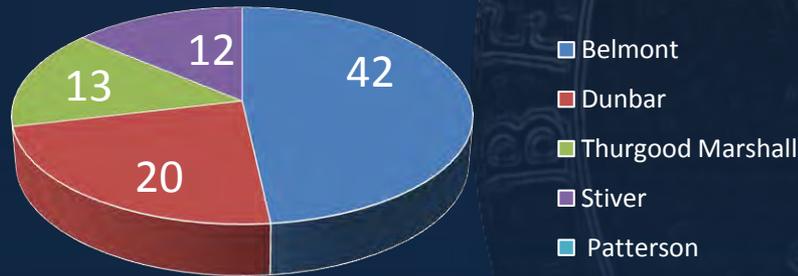
Belmont's crime and disorder was disproportionate to other Dayton Public High Schools



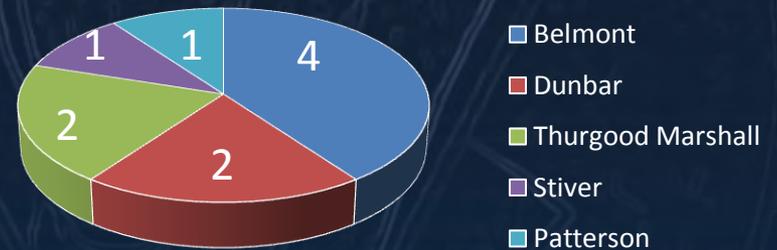
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2009–2010 Belmont vs. Other High Schools

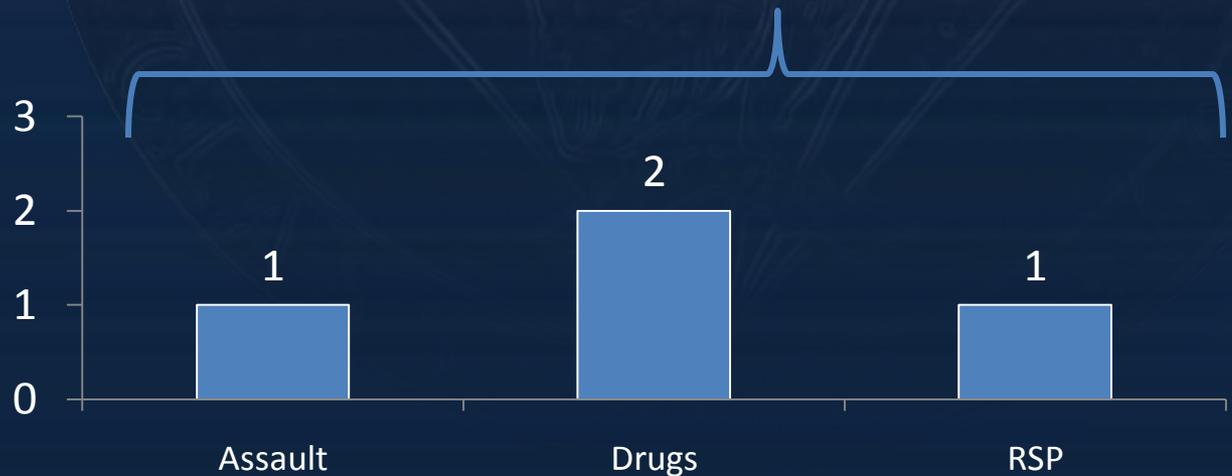
Calls For Service



Arrests

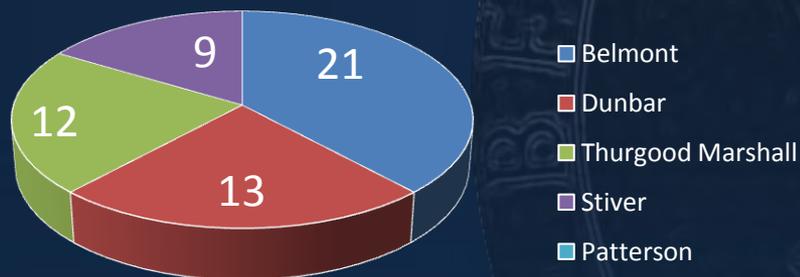


Significant reductions in calls for service and arrests

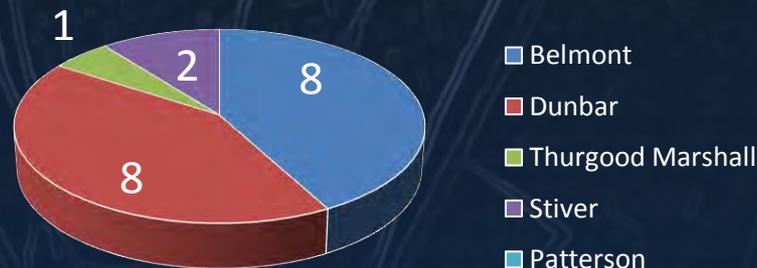


2010 – 2011 Belmont vs. Other High Schools

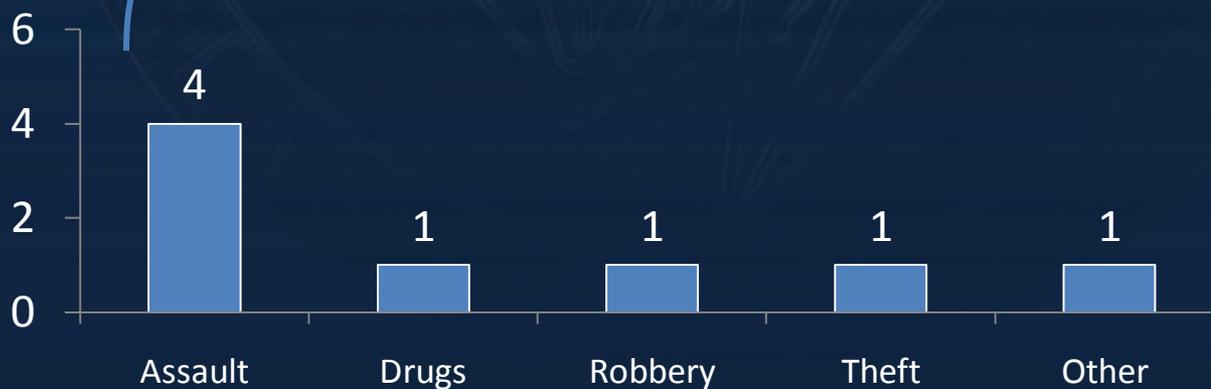
Calls For Service



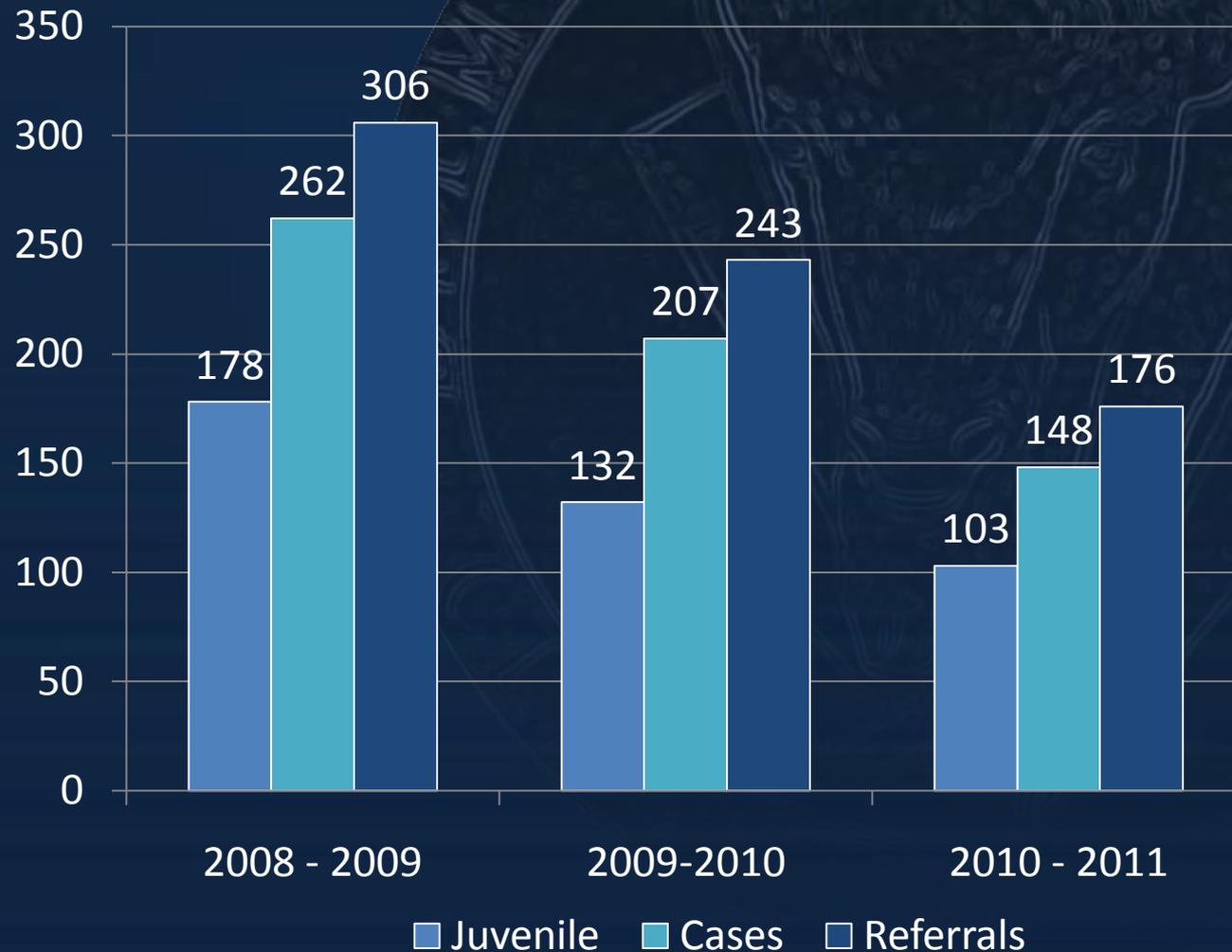
Arrests



Continued reductions in calls for service and arrests since the 2008 – 2009 school year



Delinquent & Unruly Students



Crimes

Location: Belmont High School, 2323 Maplevue Avenue

Hours: 0700-1700

Date: August 17 - June 6

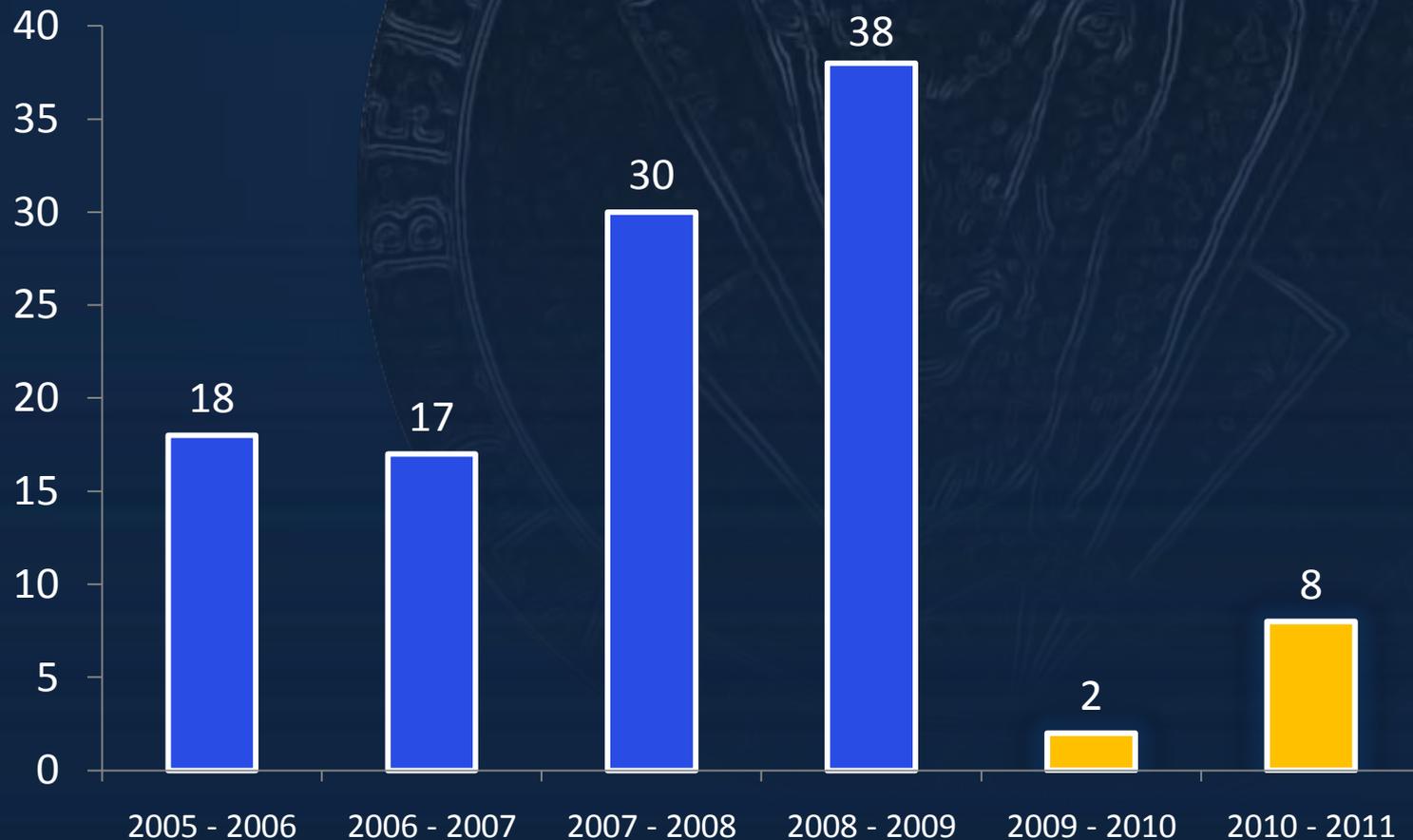


Assault Dispatch Incidents

Location: Belmont High School, 2323 Mapleview Avenue

Hours: 0700-1700

August 17- June 6

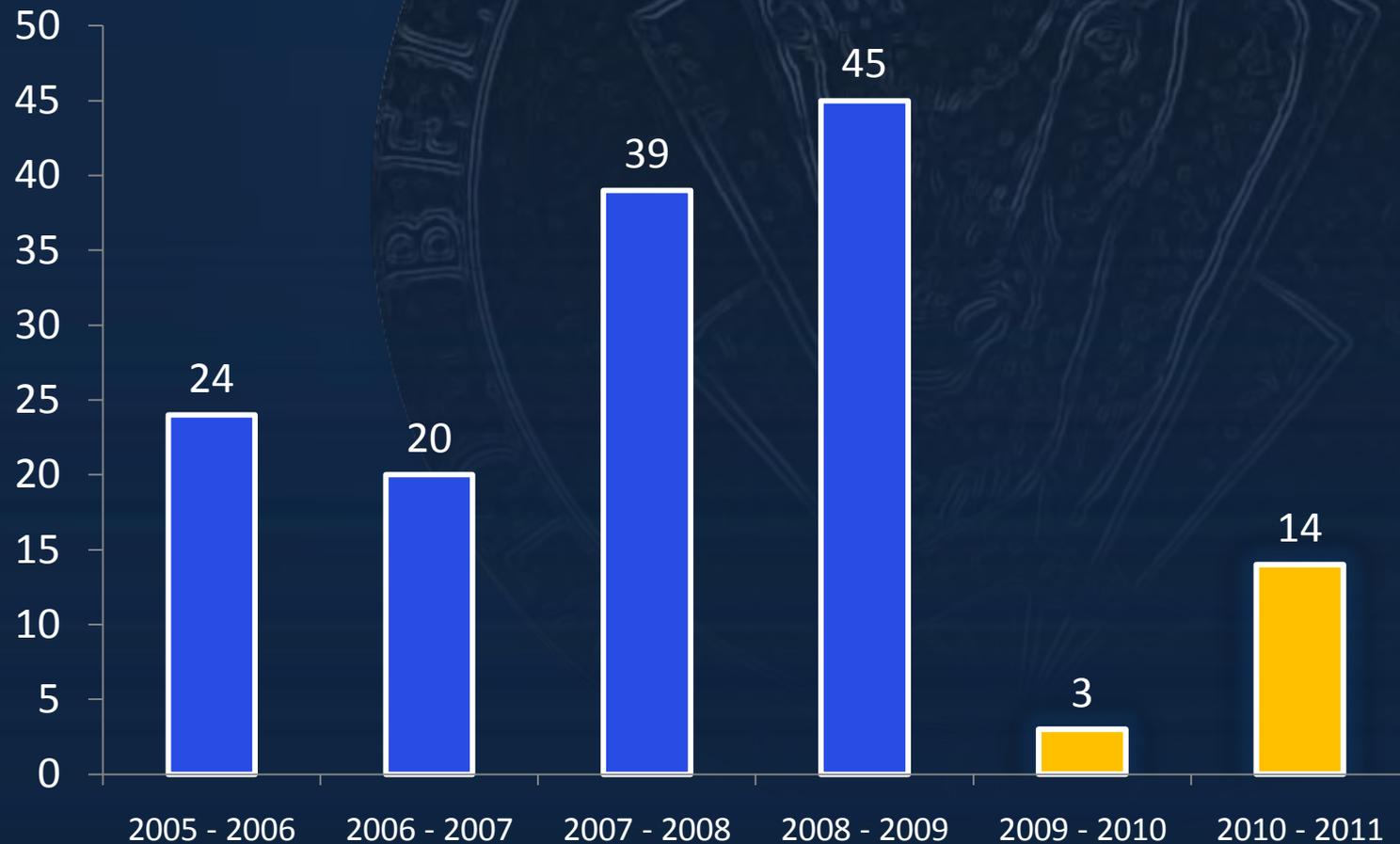


Violent Crimes

Location: Belmont High School, 2323 Maplevue Avenue

Hours: 0700-1700

August 17- June 6

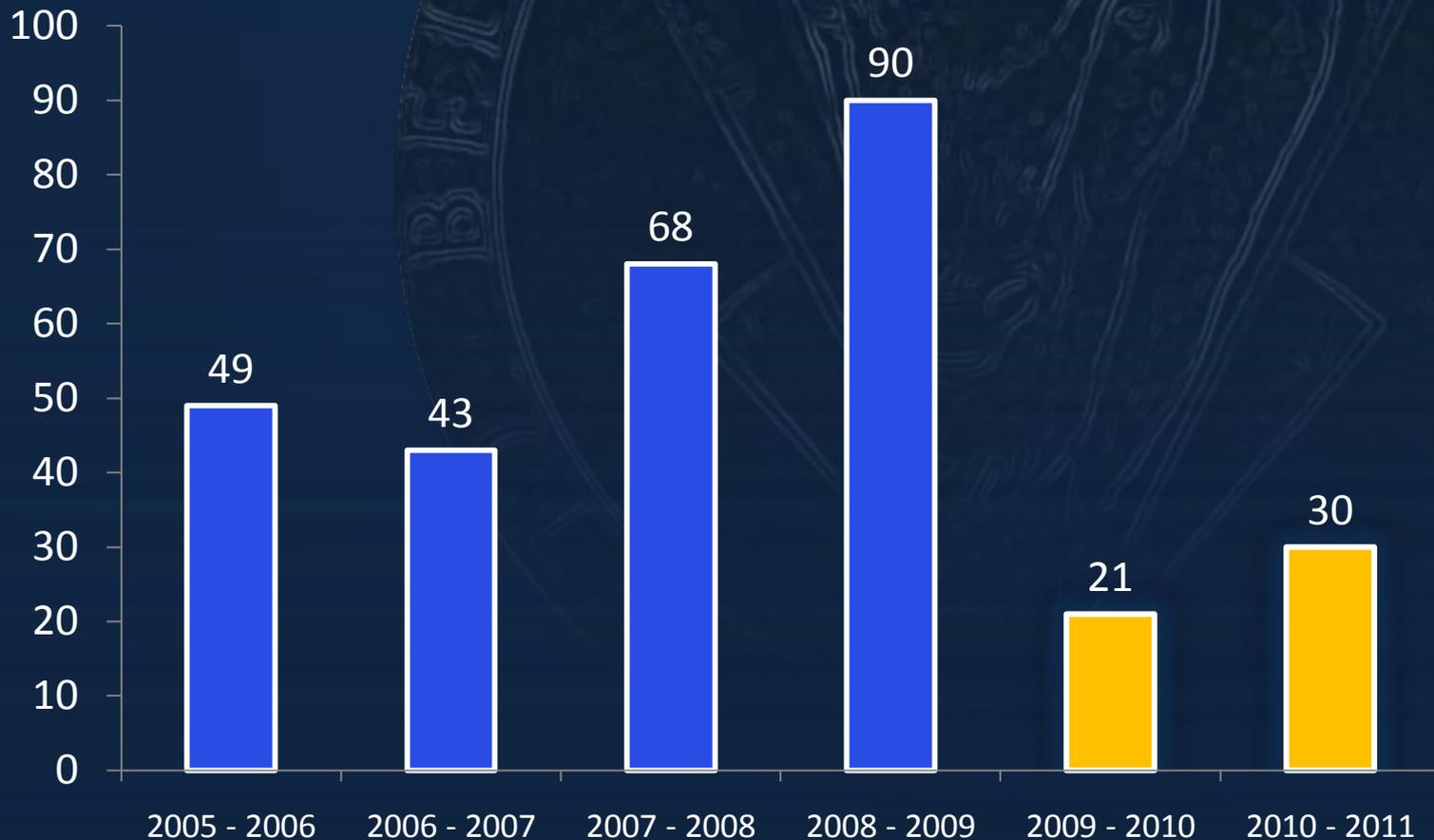


All Crimes At and Around

Location: Belmont HS + 1,000 foot radius around + 3 bus stops

Hours: 0700-1700

Date: August 17- June 6



Success Stories

1. The Belmont neighborhood and businesses noticed significant reductions in crime and disorder

Business owner who was previously scared for her customers safety.



Success Stories

1. Belmont neighborhood and businesses noticed significant reductions in crime and disorder
2. Problem student flourishes after being reassessed

Success Story

Brittany Howard:

Reassessed after problems at Belmont High School.

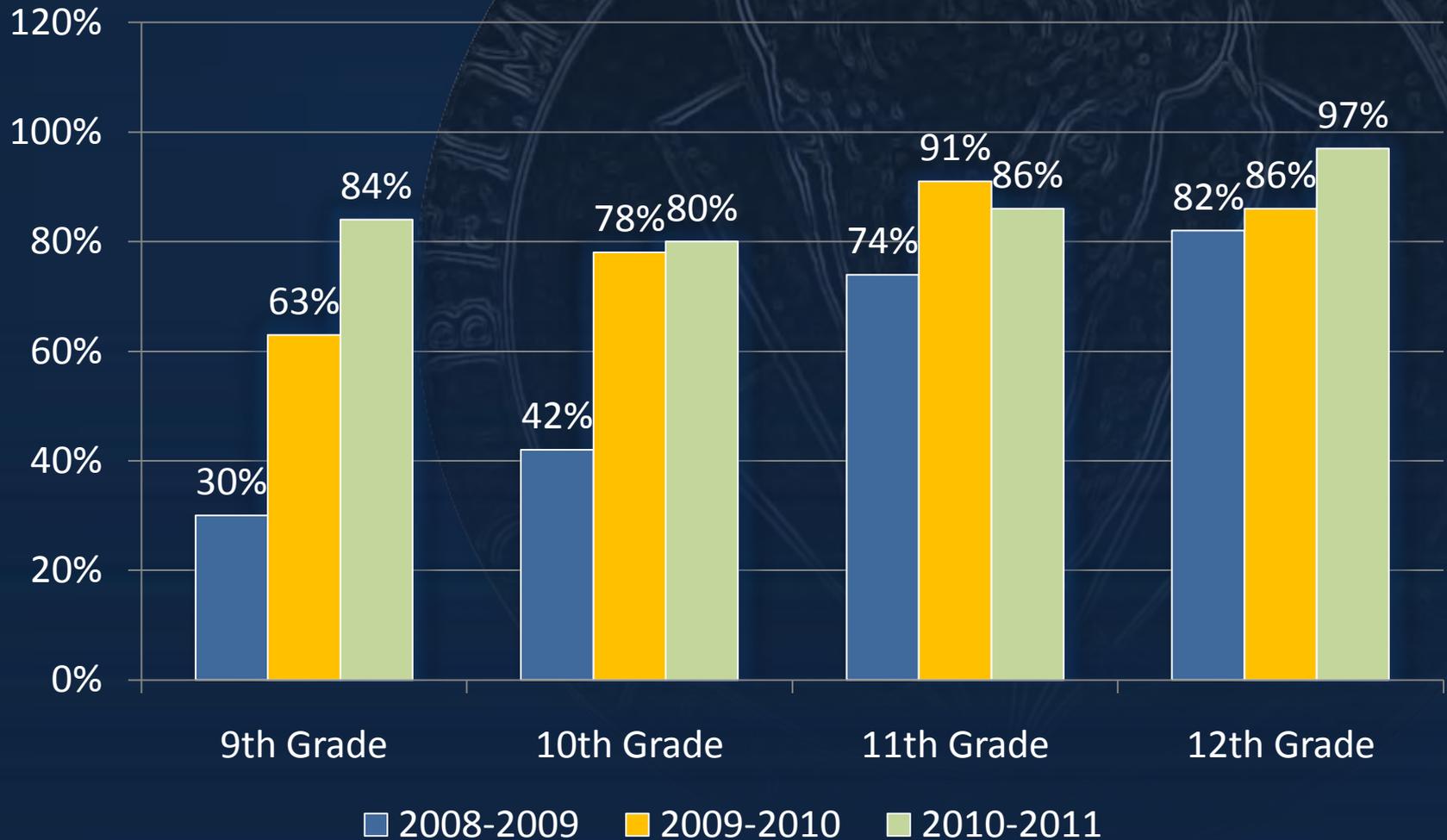
- Class Valedictorian
 - Graduated Cum-Laude



Success Stories

1. Belmont neighborhood and businesses noticed significant reductions in crime and disorder
2. Problem student flourishes after being reassessed
3. Academic performance improvements

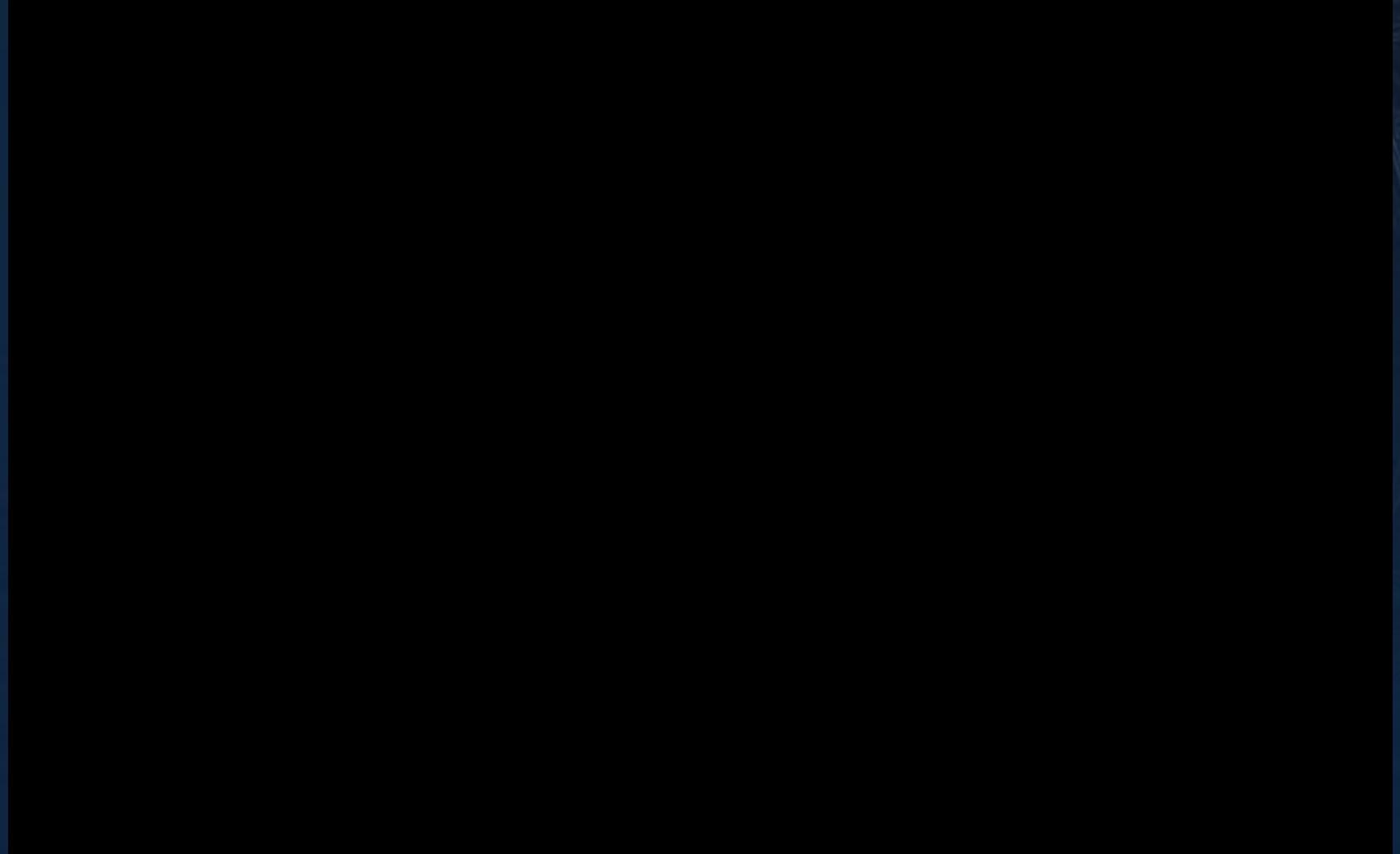
Promotion Rates



Success Stories

1. Belmont neighborhood and businesses noticed significant reductions in crime and disorder
2. Problem student flourishes after being reassessed
3. Academic performance improvements
4. National Education Association (NEA) seeks to replicate Belmont success

National Education Association Report



Thank You

Recognition for our efforts:



2011 Ohio Crime Prevention Association: Special Projects Award



2011 International Association of Chiefs of Police: Community Policing Award

Thank you

- We would like to give our special thank you to our Partners and everyone involved in making Belmont a success.
- Dayton Police Department: Lt Williams, Lt Stivers, Officer Rich Taylor, Officer Zimmerman, Officer Wolpert, Officer Beavers, Officer Pence, Officer Howard, Officer Hardin, Officer Rodrigues and **D2 Officers...**
- Dayton Public Schools: Principal-David White, Asst Principal-Ken Kraemer, Asst Principal – Theron Spence, Dean of Students – John Seebock, Interim Superintendent-Kurt Stanic , Current Superintendent Lori L. Ward, DPS Security-Harry Frisby, School Board President-Jeff Mims Jr, Teachers of Belmont High.
- **Juvenile Division of the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office:** Montgomery County Juvenile Court, Judge Nick Kuntz - Adm. Judge Juvenile Court, Julie Bruns - Juvenile Prosecutor, Greg Scott - Legal Director Juvenile Court.
- The Students of Belmont High School.

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- Officer Merwyn Rodrigues
 - (937) 333-7340; Merwyn.Rodrigues@daytonohio.gov

URBAN HIGH SCHOOL DISORDER REDUCTION PROJECT

A collaborative effort between:

- The Dayton Police Department
- Dayton Public Schools
- The Juvenile Division of the Montgomery County
Prosecutor's Office
- Montgomery County Juvenile Court

Belmont High School

Dayton, Ohio

