

June 23rd Weapons Detection System Focus Group Agenda (90-Minute Timeline)

Welcome & Housekeeping (10 minutes)

- **Introductions:** Welcome to the session. (Note: The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU/APL) is helping MCSS to facilitate the study and provide scientific data aggregation from the focus group.)
- **Purpose:** To gather honest, practical perspectives on how weapon detection technologies are selected, implemented, operated, and experienced within Maryland school environments.
- **Disclaimer:** Notification that the session is being recorded strictly for notetaking purposes, and all recordings will be purged once the study is complete.

Segment 1: Technology Selection, Deployment, and Operations (25 minutes)

- **Procurement Decisions:** What specific criteria and factors influenced your district's decision to select your current vendor?
- **Implementation Realities:** Where are the screening locations currently deployed, and what have been the real-world infrastructure needs and costs?
- **Staffing and Training:** How many staff members are required to manage throughput, and how adequate were the training requirements and vendor support?

Segment 2: Effectiveness, Usability, and Integration (25 minutes)

- **Detection and Efficacy:** What has been your actual experience with detecting or preventing weapons, false-positive rates, and the response procedures following an alert?
- **Usability:** How easy is it for staff to operate and monitor the systems, and what are your desired improvements or additional features?
- **Emergency Integration:** How seamlessly does the technology integrate with your existing infrastructure and communication systems?

Segment 3: Stakeholder Perspectives and Future Planning (20 minutes)

- **School Climate Impact:** How do students experience the screening process, and have there been perceived changes in safety and behaviors?
- **Privacy and Rights:** How is your district navigating feedback and concerns related to privacy, student rights, data handling, and parent communication/transparency?
- **Lessons Learned:** What future expansion plans or emerging technologies are under consideration, and what primary lessons would you share with other districts?

Wrap-Up & Adjournment (10 minutes)

- Final thoughts, open floor for any success stories or challenges not previously covered, and a reminder that there are no right or wrong answers.
- Next steps for the broader study and a thank you to participants.