



Colorado: One Student Killed at STEM School Shooting by Left-Leaning Students

Colorado: One student, Kendrick Ray Castillo, was killed after he reportedly lunged at the shooter, and eight other students were wounded in a shooting at the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) School in Highlands Ranch School Highlands Ranch on Tuesday. Police arrested two suspects believed to be students at the school following the deadly attack. One of the suspects, Devon Erickson, 18, had social media posts opposing President Trump and Christians. The second suspect, Maya McKinney, 16, is a biological female who is transitioning into a transgender male. The teen's lawyers asked that the pronoun "he" be used for their client.

Two students are suspects in the [shooting at a Denver area STEM school](#) that killed one student and wounded eight others.

The suspects were apprehended after allegedly targeting two separate areas of the STEM School Highlands Ranch on Tuesday afternoon. Authorities

identified Devon Erickson, 18, as one of the suspected shooters.

Authorities

identified a second suspect as a juvenile female, but a public defender

clarified that the juvenile prefers to use male pronouns. NBC News is

not identifying the underage suspect, who has not yet been charged.

Here's what else we know:

Who are the victims?

One student, 18-year-old Kendrick Castillo, was killed in the shooting.

Castillo,

who died at the scene, would have finished his high school career on

Friday along with the school's other seniors, Douglas County Sheriff

Tony Spurlock said.

"The student was going to graduate and would've been out of school in three days," the sheriff said.

Castillo is [credited with saving lives by diving at a shooter](#),

allowing other students time to flee as he was fatally shot.

Eight

other people at the school were shot and hospitalized, Spurlock said.

By Wednesday morning, five of those who were injured had been released

from hospitals, and three remained in intensive care.

Who are the suspects?

Authorities

initially described the suspects as an adult male and a juvenile male,

but later said the suspect was female. The sheriff described the suspect

is a "small young person," who investigators thought was a juvenile

male "by appearance."

"The identity wasn't obvious to us when they were taken into custody," he said Wednesday.

The

suspect's public defender said that the juvenile prefers to to use male

pronouns. NBC News is not identifying the underage suspect, who has not

yet been charged.

The adult suspect has been identified as 18-year-old Devon Erickson. Erickson made a brief initial appearance in a Douglas County courthouse on Wednesday, where he only uttered the word "no," responding to the judge asking if he had any questions.

The juvenile and Erickson knew each other and would sometimes carpool to school together, Spurlock told NBC News.

Erickson had recently posted a senior photo on his Facebook page, where he listed Pokémon and "The Walking Dead" as interests, along with several pop bands. He had also posted pictures of him acting in "Legally Blonde the Musical" and "Les Misérables" at a local community theater.

On his YouTube page, he had posted videos of him singing, and his bio on Twitter read: "I make music I guess."

The suspect's mother, Stephanie Erickson, 56, told the [New York Post](#) on Wednesday that the family needed "a little time right now."

When asked if she had any idea what would lead her son to carry out a school shooting, she said through tears: "I don't, no."

What happened?

The
shooters, armed with handguns, entered the K-12 school Tuesday
afternoon through the middle school, which has no metal
detectors and
one contracted armed security officer, Spurlock said.

They were both “able to get deep inside the school” because
they were students there, he said.

Officers
arrived within two minutes and heard gunfire when they entered
the
school, but they never exchanged gunfire with the suspects,
Spurlock
said.

[Read full article here...](#)