

## **THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS**

## **8.21**

I. The Superintendent, or his or her designee, shall develop administrative procedures for the prevention of violence on school grounds, including coordination of resources, training, and the assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of the school community. This policy is adopted for the establishment of Threat Assessment Teams at each school, whose duties include the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff or students. The duties of the Threat Assessments Teams shall be consistent with the model policies developed by the Florida Department of Education, Office of Safe Schools, which shall include procedures for referrals to mental health services identified by the District.

II. Each Threat Assessment Team shall include persons with expertise in:

- A. Counseling
- B. Instruction
- C. School Administration
- D. Law Enforcement

III. A school counselor shall be designated for the Threat Assessment Team. Each school principal shall serve as the school administrator, and the principal shall select an instructional staff member to serve as a member of the school's Threat Assessment Team. The Duval County School Police Department shall designate its law enforcement representative to serve as the law enforcement member of the Threat Assessment Team. For continuity, the same personnel will serve each time the Threat Assessment Team is convened. The Superintendent, or his or her designee, shall create procedures for the purposes of:

- A. Identifying any additional team participants by position and role;
- B. Designating the individuals (by position) who are responsible for gathering and investigating information; and
- C. Identifying the steps and procedures to be followed from initiation to conclusion of the threat assessment inquiry or investigation.

IV. The Threat Assessment Teams shall identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior should be reported and provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community, school, or self.

V. Upon a preliminary determination by the Threat Assessment Team that a student poses a threat of violence to himself or herself or others or exhibits significantly disruptive behavior or need for assistance, the Threat Assessment Team may obtain criminal history record information. A member of a Threat Assessment Team may not disclose any criminal history record information obtained pursuant to this section or otherwise use any record of an individual beyond the purpose for which such disclosure was made to the Threat Assessment Team. The school principal or designee shall immediately attempt to notify the parent or legal guardian of a student when the student is assessed by the Threat Assessment Team. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude school district personnel from acting immediately to address an imminent threat.

VI. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all state and local agencies and programs that provide services to students experiencing or at risk of an emotional disturbance or a mental

illness, including the District, school personnel, state and local law enforcement agencies, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Education, the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office, and any service or support provider contracting with such agencies, may share with each other records or information that are confidential or exempt from disclosure under Chapter 119, F.S., if the records or information are reasonably necessary to ensure access to appropriate services for the student or to ensure the safety of the student or others. All such state and local agencies and programs shall communicate, collaborate, and coordinate efforts to serve such students.

VII. Each school's Threat Assessment Team shall meet at least monthly, or as often as necessary to ensure that students are appropriately assessed and referred to services to mitigate potential harm to the student or others. Threat Assessment Teams are not precluded from acting immediately to address an imminent threat.

VIII. The principal will ensure that the appropriate school administrator collect and record all required documentation for statistical retention and reporting as required by law.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

1001.41, F.S.

LAW(S) IMPLEMENTED:

119.07, 985.047, 1006.07, 1006.13, 1006.1493,  
1012.584, F.S.

HISTORY:

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

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