

3039

Threat Assessment and Response

The board of education is committed to providing a safe environment for members of the school community. Students, staff and patrons are urged to immediately report any statements or behavior that makes the observer fearful or uncomfortable about the safety of the school environment.

1. **Obligation to Report threatening Statements or Behaviors.**

All staff and students must report any threatening statements or behavior to a member of the administration. Staff and students must make such report regardless of the nature of the relationship between the individual who initiated the threat or threatening behavior and the person(s) who were threatened or who were the focus of the threatening behavior. Staff and students must also make such reports regardless of where or when the threat was made or the threatening behavior occurred.

THREATS OR ASSAULTS WHICH REQUIRE IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE AT 911.

2. **Threat Assessment Investigation and Response**

All reports of violent, threatening, stalking or other behavior or statements which could be interpreted as posing a threat to school safety will immediately be forwarded to the superintendent or alternate decision-maker. However, in the event of an immediate threat, any staff member can use his or her discretion to issue a Standard Response Protocol (SRP) response (i.e. Lockout, Lockdown/Shelter, Evacuate, or Shelter) and a subsequent directive as outlined in the district's Safety and Security Plan. In the absence of the superintendent's time-sensitive availability, decision making will defer an alternate decision maker until the superintendent is available. The alternate decision maker shall be the building principal, or in his/her absence, the Board-approved administrative designee. Upon receipt of an initial report of any threat, the superintendent or alternate decision-maker will take steps to verify the information, make an initial assessment, and document any decision involving further action. This investigation may include interviews with the person who made the statement(s) or engaged in the behavior of concern, interviews with teachers and other staff members who may have information about the individual of concern, interviews with the target(s) of the threatening statements or behavior, interviews of family members, physical searches of the individual of concern's person, possessions, and home (as allowed by law and in cooperation with law enforcement), and any other investigatory methods that the superintendent or alternate decision-maker determines to be reasonable and useful. The superintendent or alternate decision-maker must confer with at least one member of the school's guidance counseling staff as part of his/her investigation.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the superintendent or alternate decision-maker will determine what, if any, response to the threat is appropriate. The superintendent or

alternate decision-maker is authorized to disclose the results of his/her investigation to law enforcement and to the target(s) of any threatened acts. The superintendent or alternate decision-maker may refer the individual of concern to the appropriate school administrator for consequences under the school's student discipline policy or, if appropriate, report the results of his/her investigation to the student's individualized education plan team.

3. Communication with the Public about Reported Threats

To the extent possible, the superintendent or alternate decision-maker will keep members of the school community informed about possible threats and about the school's response to those threats. This communication may include oral announcements, written communication sent home with students, and communication through print or broadcast media. However, the superintendent or alternate decision-maker will not reveal the identity of the individual of concern or of any target(s) of threatened violence unless permitted by law.

4. Coordination with the Crisis Team After Resolution of Threat

The superintendent or alternate decision-maker will confer with the district's crisis team after a threat has been investigated to provide the crisis team with information that the crisis team may use in assessing or revising the district's Safety and Security Plan.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017

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Reviewed on: _____