NAVIGATING the future

2023 Parent & Family Engagement Conference





https://www.esc14.net/page/t4si

"Keeping Our Students Safe: New Laws for <u>Mental Health and School Safety</u>"



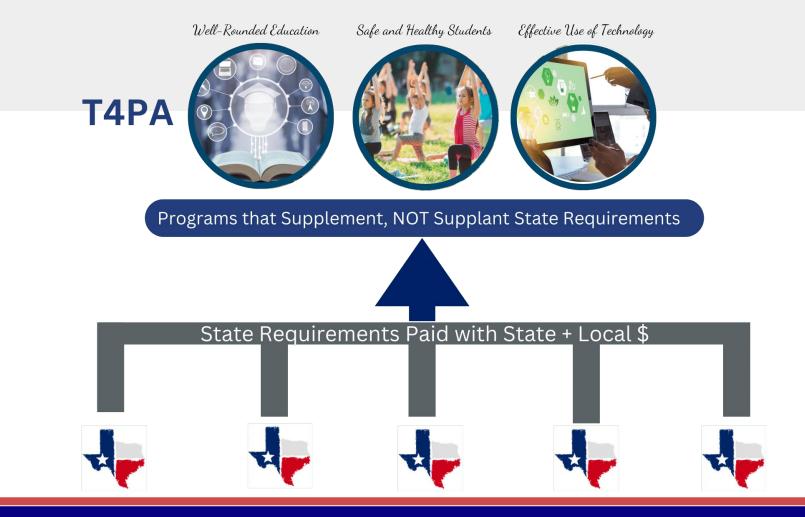
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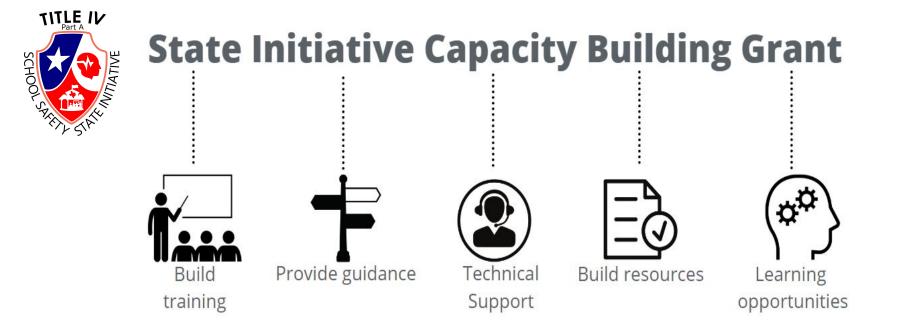
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https://www.esc14.net/page/t4si





THE DAILY NEWS

Will school shootings in 2023 outpace last year's record high?

There have been more shootings with more victims in the first three months of 2023 than the same period last year.



NUMBER OF SHOOTINGS BY SCHOOL TYPE SINCE COLUMBINE



INJURIES AND FATALITIES IN ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS SINCE COLUMBINE



SOURCES: K-12 SCHOOL SHOOTING DATABASE, CENTER FOR HOMELAND DEFENSE AND SECURITY AT NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL; THE VIOLENCE PROJECT MASS SHOOTER DATABASE







88th Legislative Updates to SSSP Requirements



Parents + SSSP Team

Other New Laws that have SSSP Implications

TODAY'S AGENDA





Required School Safety Committees



Safe and Supportive School (SSSP)

Reports:

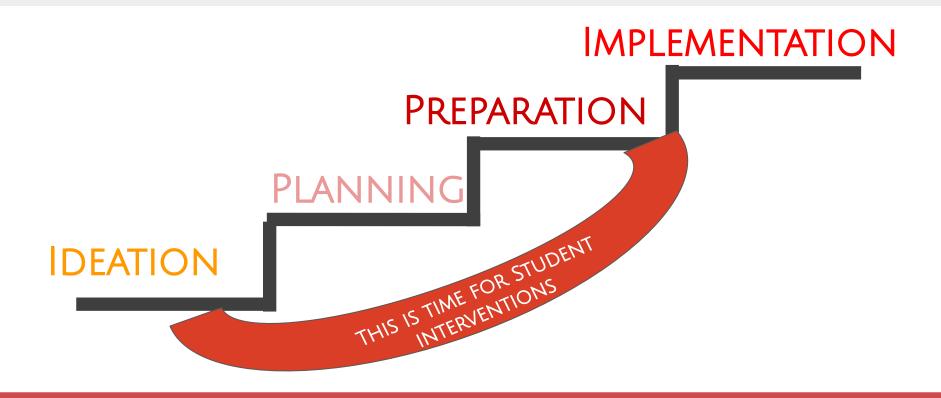
Evidence of Team meeting/training
June - Annual SSSP report by campus to TEA





SSSP Teams' Six Pillars of Student Supports

The Purpose of Behavioral Threat Assessment: Getting Students Off the Pathway to Violence





SB 11 | 86th Legislature | 2019 Safe and Supportive Schools Team Requirements



- Team required for all districts
- Multi-Disciplinary Team Members
- A team may serve > 1 campus, provided that each campus is assigned a team



SB 11 | 86th Legislature | 2019 Safe and Supportive Schools Team Requirements



Team Members

Must have expertise in

- Counseling
- Behavior management
- Mental health and substance use
- Classroom instruction
- Special education
- School administration
- School safety and security
- Emergency management, and
- Law enforcement



Safe and Supportive Schools Team Requirements The Policies and Procedures adopted for the SSSP Team must...

- Follow TxSSC policies + procedures
- Be trained in Behavioral Threat Assessment, and
- Annually report to TEA
- Conduct threat assessments and determine level of risk/interventions
- Report immediately to superintendent if team determines there is a risk or violence to self or others

- Follow district suicide prevention program if student is at risk of suicide
- Follow district policies and procedures related to substance abuse if student is using or possessing tobacco, drugs, or alcohol
- Provide guidance to students + staff on recognizing behavior that may pose a threat and how to report it to the Team
- Support the implementation of the EOP



STUDENT ON STUDENT

HARM

SB 11 | 86th Legislature | 2019 Safe and Supportive Schools Team Requirements

What constitutes a BEHAVIORAL THREAT ASSESSMENT?

- Verbal Threats
- Threats of self harm
- Bullying
- Cyberbullying
- Fighting
- Use of weapon
- Sexual Assault
- Sexual Harassment
- Dating Violence
- Stalking
- Assault



That could result in:

- specific interventions including mental health or behavioral supports;
- Discipline that could include a change of placement.

Threat Assessment IS:

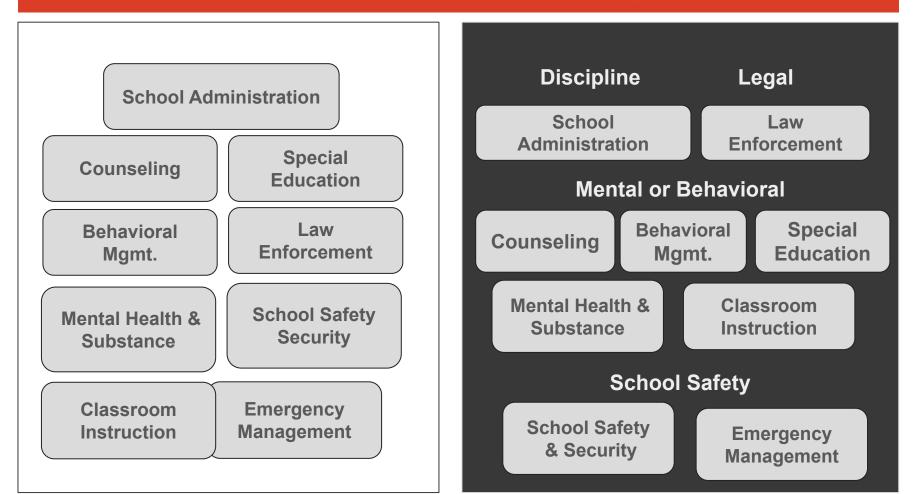
Threat Assessment IS NOT:

A means to identify, assess, and manage individuals who are at risk for violence against themselves or others. A simple checklist of warning signs or red flags used to remove a student from school.

A means to label a student as a troublemaker and enact consequences.

A means to find "the next school shooter".

SSSP Provides Student Supports



88th Leg - 5 New Requirements to SSSP

Establish

Clear Procedures to Report

Protect

Identity of a district employee who reports

Notify

Parent of Team's intent to conduct Threat Assessment

Retain

Threat Assessment information until 24th birthday

Share

1. Discipline + Threat Assessment records when Student transferring districts 2. With Parent the Findings + Conclusions

Source: Texas School Safety Center







Establish and Retain: SSSP Procedures + Records

The Board of each school district shall establish a threat assessment and safe and supportive school team to serve at **each campus** of the district and shall adopt policies and procedures for the teams.

- Each LEA must establish a clear procedure for a student to report concerning behavior exhibited by another student to the SSSP | Threat Assessment Team.
- Materials and Information produced from a threat assessment of a student must be maintained in a student's school record until the student's 24th birthday.





Protect: Staff Confidentiality With Behavioral Threat Assessment Report



A district employee who initially reports a potential threat to a team may elect for the employee's identity to be confidential and not subject to disclosure.

• Except as necessary to investigate the potential threat

TEC 37.115(c), SB 1720

• District must maintain a record of the employee

Notify and Share: SSSP Team + Parent Engagement

1. **Before:** Address an emergency first! <u>After</u> immediate threat removed, notify parent of the intent to conduct a threat assessment as soon as possible.

Notification does not mean parental permission. Threat Assessment is required by law.

- 2. **During:** Parents are to be provided opportunity to submit information that may assist the team with the assessment, but Parents are not a member of the Team.
- 3. After: Findings and Conclusions



Share: SSSP Team Findings + Conclusions with Parent

Misunderstanding/ False Report

Case Closed. No action.

Not verifiable.

Team will continue to monitor for harmful behaviors.

TEXAS Education Agency





Credible Threat

There is concern for student. Collaborate with district to develop an intervention plan.







SHARE: SSSP + Discipline Records when Transfer



Enrollment of Student

The parent or sending school shall furnish to the receiving district a copy of the child's records from most recent school, including a copy of the child's disciplinary records and any threat assessment(s) involving the child's behavior.



Transfer of Student

In the case of a transfer, a child's school district of residence shall provide the receiving district with the child's disciplinary records and any threat assessment(s) conducted.

TEC 25.002(a), TEC 25.036(c), HB 3



Parents, Students and Families are critical to recognizing concerning behavior to keep our Schools Safe!

> IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!



SSSP RELATED LAWS



Student Fentanyl Prevention Instruction 2 Requirements

School Health Advisory Committee Recommends

- # instruction hours in <u>health education</u> K-12
- Grade levels and curriculum regarding the dangers of opioids, including instruction on:
 - opioid and synthetic opioid addiction and abuse
 - administering an opioid antagonist (NARCAN)

Prevention and Drug Poisoning Awareness

- Provided annually grades 6-12
- Instruction must include (1) suicide prevention (2) prevention of fentanyl abuse and addiction (3) awareness of local and community resources, and (4) health education includes information about youth substance use/abuse

TEC 38.040, HB 3908

October is Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month

HB 3144

TEC <u>28.004(c)</u>, TEC 29.9074, TEC 38.040, & TEC 38.351, <u>HB 3908</u>



District Opioid Antagonist Policy Requirement

(ex. NARCAN)



Each campus **grades 6-12** (< grade 6 optional) regarding the maintenance, administration, and disposal of opioid antagonists. *This requirement is optional for* open-enrollment charter/private schools. Policy must provide for:

- Trained personnel/volunteers may administer opioid antagonist to person believed to be experiencing an overdose
- Be available during **regular school hours**
- Establish the # of opioid antagonists at each campus at any given time a
- Secure storage location and easily accessible

More Guidance:

- TASB Unassigned Medication Requirements Chart
- <u>Texas School Nurses Organization Narcan Toolkit</u>





DAEP for E-Cigarette (Vape) and Certain Drugs

TEC 37.006 & TEC 37.009, HB 114



A student shall be removed from class and placed in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) if the student:

- Possesses, uses, or is a controlled substance or dangerous drug
- Possesses, uses, or is <u>under the influence of, sells, gives, or</u> <u>delivers</u> to another person one of the following:
 - Marihuana or tetrahydrocannabinol
 - E-cigarette
 - Alcohol
 - Abusable volatile chemical

If DAEP is already at capacity _____ ISS.



A Person Commits a Hazing Offense

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- if they engage in hazing
- solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in hazing
- recklessly permits hazing to occur; or
- has firsthand knowledge of the planning of specific hazing of a student
- has firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred fails to report in writing to appropriate official

IF A PERSON KNOWING OF AN INCIDENT VOLUNTARILY REPORTS TO DISTRICT OR LAW ENFORCEMENT BEFORE BEING CONTACTED BY OFFICIALS, THEY ARE IMMUNE FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY.



A Person Commits a Harassment Offense

(Light	

the person makes obscene, intimidating, or threatening

telephone calls or other electronic communications from a temporary or disposable telephone number provided by an Internet application or other technological means (ex. Web App) with

• intent to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass another person





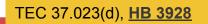
Student Transition back from Alternative Education — Regular Classroom



District must include a <u>personalized transition plan</u> for the student developed by the campus administrator.

Personalized transition plan must include:

- recommendations for the best educational placement of the student; and
- provision of information provided to parent regarding the process to request a full evaluation for special education services





Staff Mental Health Education Requirements



School Counselor

- Mental Health Conditions
- Substance abuse



- Grief-informed and Trauma-Informed Interventions
- Crisis Management
- Suicide Prevention



All Other District Staff *who regularly interact with Students*

- Mental health | substance use issues that may pose a threat to school safety
- 100% trained by 2028-2029

TEC 21.054, <u>HB 2929</u>, TEC 22.904, <u>HB 3</u>



Additional School Funding for Mental Health from School Safety Facilities Grant

School Safety Facilities Grant

\$1.1B

one-time funding through the supplemental appropriations bill to address new minimum school safety standards and other facilities-related safety improvements Cycle 1 (* Discretionary non-competitive gran a need for the funds to include, rat

Intended to ensure that full fundin comply with the minimum school s currently comply.

Only LEAs that have applied to the will be eligible for the first cycle of items aligned to the School Safety

Cycle 2 Formula grant to all LEAs to suppor district, beyond the minimum safe school districts and open enrollme

Allowable Costs

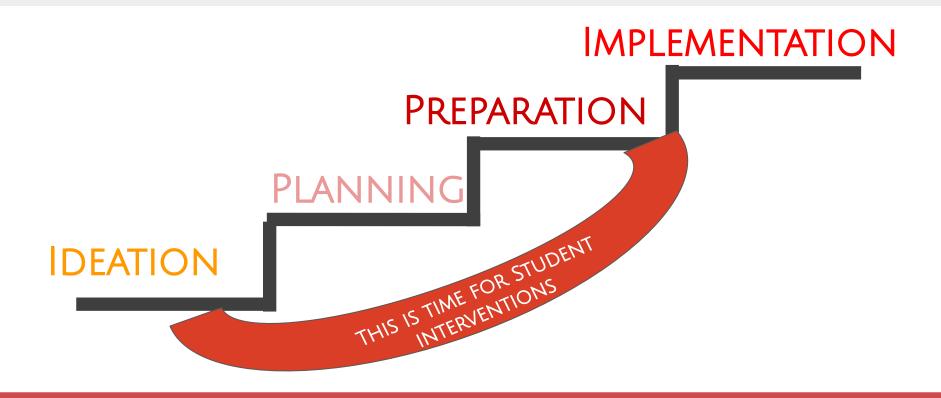
 Cycle 1 – Similar to the current 2022-25 School Safety Standards Formula Grant, the list of allowables will only cover the required items in the School Safety Standards and the instillation of those components.

 Cycle 2 – The list of allowables for the second cycle of the grant will a much more comprehensive list of allowables to include, but not limited to:

SECTION 4.02, SB 30

- Safety equipment
- Mental health supports and counseling
- Armed security
- School safety technology
- Other school safety supports

The Purpose of Behavioral Threat Assessment: Getting Students Off the Pathway to Violence





OTHER HEALTH + MENTAL HEALTH RELATED LAWS PASSED IN 88TH LEGISLATURE



Required Posting: Human Trafficking



- Each public school (privates schools have been removed from the law) shall post warning signs of the increased penalties for trafficking of persons under Section 20A.02(b-1)(2), Penal Code, in a **conspicuous place reasonably likely to be viewed by all school employees and visitors.**
- Warning Sign should include
 - (1) **include a description of the provisions** of Section 20A.02(b-1), Penal Code, including **the penalties for violating** that section;
 - (2) be written in English and Spanish; and
 - (3) be at least 8-1/2 by 11 inches in size.
- Example signage available on <u>TEAs Human Trafficking Prevention webpage</u>





Student: CPR And AED Instruction



- Each student in grades 7-12 shall receive CPR, including AED instruction, at least once before graduation. Instruction is not required to result in certification in CPR or in the use of an AED.
- A school district or open-enrollment charter school may use emergency medical technicians, paramedics, police officers, firefighters, representatives of the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross, teachers, other school employees, or other similarly qualified individuals to provide this training.



Student Medication for Respiratory Distress



A district **may adopt** and implement a policy regarding the maintenance, administration, and disposal of medication **for respiratory distress** at **each campus**.

If adopted:

- 1 or more authorized and trained school personnel or volunteers present to administer the medication during regular school hours.
- <u>If</u> medication is administered to a student whose parent or guardian has not provided notification to the school that the student has been diagnosed with asthma, the school must refer the student to the student's primary care provider on the day the medication is administered and inform the student's parent or guardian regarding the referral.
- <u>If</u> a student who has received medication for respiratory distress **does not have a** primary care provider, the district must give parents information on selecting a PCP.
- Storage: The supply of medication at each campus must be stored in a secure location and be easily accessible to trained personnel.



Sickle Cell Disease Information



TEA, in collaboration with sickle cell disease community-based organizations,

shall provide information on sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait to

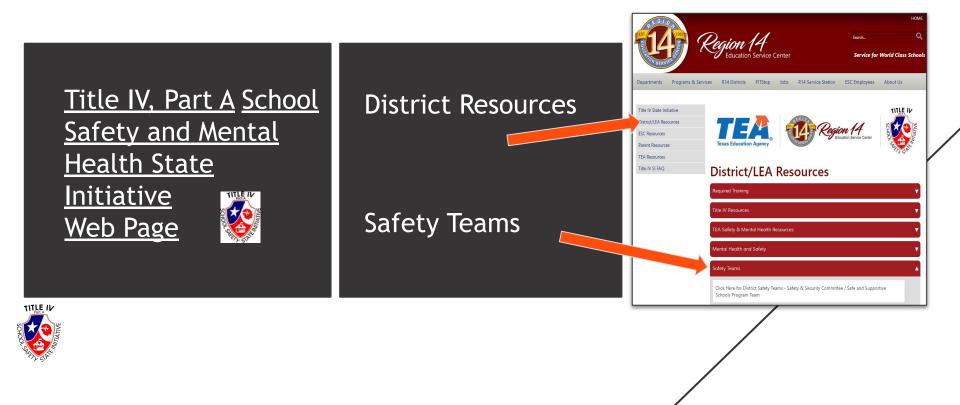
public school districts and district staff, including school nurses, teachers, and coaches.



Resources Implementation Help



Where can you find School Safety State Requirements?



District Safety Team Requirements Website





TEA + TASB Websites and Resources

Safe and Supportive Schools



ASB Legal Services

Teve

TEXAS SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER

OPERATIONALIZING SCHOOL BEHAVIORAL THREAT ASSESSMENT FAQs

Since 2019, Texas law has required that school districts and open-enrollment charter schools have access to Safe and Supportive School Texam (SSTs) to conduct behavioral threat assessments (BTA) and provide support to campuses. SSST members who have completed training and are working to operationalize the threat assessment procedures at their campuses frequently contact. The Texas School Safety Center (TASSC) with questions about this process. School officials also call the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) with policy-related questions. Together, we answer some of the most common questions below.

Establishing a Safe and Supportive School Team

Safe and Supportive School Program Guidance

Implementing the Behavioral Threat Assessment Process

The Texas School Safety Center(TxSSC) has developed <u>Model Policies and Procedures</u> for Behavioral Threat Assessment and Sufe and Supportive School Program (SSSP) Teams. The TxSSC document and this guidance document should be used in the establishment and operation of each SSSP team.

Establishment of the Safe and Supportive School Program Team

In accordance with Texas Education Code (TCL), 937.13(5)(2) a SSP team must be established by the board of trustees to serve each campus within the school district. The number of SSP teams and the number of campuses each team enversi a local decision based on the needs of and resources available to each school district. The SSP team is a multidisciptinny team composed of individuals with a broad range of expertise with the responsibility of implementing the district SSP. Apart of 1 separation, the SSSP team is staked with conducting behavioral threat assuments and determining the best course of action to support an individual with made a threat and the victims of the threat.

To ensure continuity of SSSP team operations, the team should annually review the following considerations:

- How does the district ensure all the areas of expertise specified in TEC, §37.115(d) are represented? How does the team document areas of expertise that are missing from the team including the reason they are not represented?
- How does the team replace expertise area vacancies on the team created through attrition or other circumstances?
- What is the process for ensuring all team members attend threat assessment training provided by the TxSSC or a regional education service center (ESC)? What procedure exists for collecting and maintaining the training certificate?
- How have the following been developed, systematized and communicated to each team member so that a common understanding exists?
- The designated role of each team member
- Signs of behaviors that pose a threat
- The threat reporting mechanisms developed by the local education agency
- Resources available to support students who made the threat and those who were targets of the threat
- Annual training provided to staff, students, and community stakeholders regarding the signs of behaviors that pose a threat, the reporting mechanisms, and the responsibility to report the behavior
- The process for documenting threat reports and threat assessments, and the method for maintaining and storing such documents
- The way and type of threat assessment information that can be communicated to school staff, between other campuses within the district, and with outside entities including districts that receive the student after a threat has been recorded
- The data that must be reported to the TEA at the end of the school year and the way that the data will be collected, maintained, and stored
- How often does the team meet at regularly calendared intervals, to review student support plans, practice conducting scenario-based threat assessments, and to review available resources to support students?

SSSP Guidance - Implementing the Behavior Threat Assessment Process



School Mental Health Practice Guide and Toolkit





Images are linkable

Texas School Safety Center Resources

Eleven Key Questions to Guide Data Collection in a Threat Assessment Inquiry

Please note that these questions should not be utilized without adequate training and planning.

1. What are the student's motive(s) and goals?

- What motivated the student to make the statements or take the actions that caused him or her to come to attention?
- · Does the situation or circumstance that led to these statements or actions still exist?
- Does the student have a major grievance or grudge? Against whom?
- What efforts have been made to resolve the problem and what has been the result? Does the
 potential attacker feel that any part of the problem is resolved or see any alternatives?

2. Have there been any communications suggesting ideas or intent to attack?

- What, if anything, has the student communicated to someone else (targets, friends, other students, teachers, family, others) or written in a diary, journal, or website concerning his or her ideas and/or intentions?
- Have friends been alerted or "warned away"?

3. Has the subject shown inappropriate interest in any of the following?

- School attacks or attackers;
- · Weapons (including recent acquisition of any relevant weapon);
- Incidents of mass violence (terrorism, workplace violence, mass murderers).
- 4. Has the student engaged in attack-related behaviors? These behaviors might include:
 - Developing an attack idea or plan;
 - Making efforts to acquire or practice with weapons;
 - Casing, or checking out, possible sites and areas for attack;
 - · Rehearsing attacks or ambushes
- 5. Does the student have the capacity to carry out an act of targeted violence?
- How organized is the student's thinking and behavior?
 Does the student have the means, e.g., access to a weapon, to carry out an attack?

6. Is the student experiencing hopelessness, desperation, and/or despair?

- · Is there information to suggest that the student is experiencing desperation and/or despair?
- · Has the student experienced a recent failure, loss and/or loss of status?
- · Is the student known to be having difficulty coping with a stressful event?
- · Is the student now, or has the student ever been, suicidal or "accident-prone"? Has the student

engaged in behavior that suggests that he or she has considered ending their life?

TEXAS SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER

The following model policies and procedures are consistent with the requirements of the Texas Education Code (TEC) 37.215 and reflect research-based betr practices. Elements of the procedure that are aligned with TEC requirements include a cross-reference to the applicable section of the TEC. Please note this document is not to be used as a train the trainer model.

MODEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO ESTABLISH AND TRAIN ON THREAT ASSESSMENT

Concose As part of the Safe and Supportive School Program, the purpose of this document is to provide model policies and procedures for public school districts and charter schools in establishing and training teams that conduct threat assessment in Texas.

POLICY

The Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) has worked with the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) in recommending a school board policy [FFB (LEGAL) & (LOCAL)] for Safe and Supportive School Program Teams. School Boards must adopt LOCAL policies. LEGAL policies are required by law

EFINITIONS

 A "Safe and Supportive School Program Team" is a team that conducts behavioral threat assessments by assessing and reporting individuals who make threats of violence or exhibit harmful, threatening, or violent behavior and who gathers and analyzes data to determine the level of risk and appropriate intervention. The team serves as a safety net for the community and school by.

 Conducting a fact-based, systematic, and investigative approach to determining how likely a person is to carry out a threat of violence.

- 2. Identifying, assessing, and managing appropriate interventions of individuals wh
- are at risk for violence against themselves and others. 3. Providing guidance to students and school employees on recognizing harmful,
- threatening, or violent behavior that may pose a threat to the community, school, or individual.

When conducting this process with fidelity it leads to a positive and safe school climate. This process is not intended to be punitive or adversarial; rather, it is a way to build trust and situational awareness.

 "Harmful, threatening, or violent behavior" includes behaviors such as verbal threats, threats of self-harm, bullying, ryberbullying, fighting, the use or possession of a weapon, sexual assauk, sexual harassment, dating violence, stalking, or assault, by a student. [TC 37.115(a)(1)]

Updated August 2021



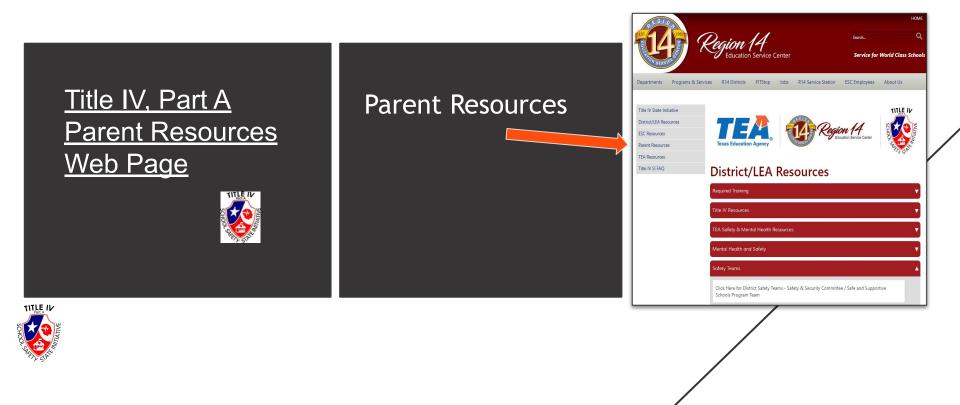


Images are linkable





Where can you find Parent Resources?



Finding Community Resources







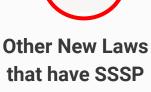




88th Legislative Updates to SSSP Requirements



Parents + SSSP Team



Implications

TODAY'S AGENDA





Evaluations

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2023 Statewide Parent and Family Engagement Conference

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John Phillips, Ed.D. Safety Consultant jphillips@esc14.net

hank you







