

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

No. 524

**Board of Trustees
Douglas County School District**

STUDENTS

Behavioral Threat Assessment

Purpose

The Board is committed to protecting the health, safety and welfare of its students and the school community and providing the resources and support to address identified student needs. The Board adopts this policy to address student behavior that may indicate a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community, and others.

Authority

The Board directs the Superintendent or designee, in consultation with Education Services and Inclusive Education Department, to establish a threat assessment team and develop procedures for assessing and intervening with students whose behavior may indicate a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community, and others.

Members of the threat assessment team will

1. Respond to notifications received from the SafeVoice program, or report initiated by students, staff or parents/guardians.
2. Interview the student, other students, staff, parents/guardians, or others regarding the subject(s) of the reported threat.
3. Review existing academic, health and disciplinary records and assignments, as appropriate, regarding the subject(s) of the report.
4. Conduct searches of lockers, storage spaces, and other possessions on school property as applicable, in accordance with applicable law, regulations, and Board policy.
5. Examine outside resources such as social media sites, in coordination with law enforcement, or contacting law enforcement, juvenile probation, or community agencies
6. to request additional information about the subject(s) of the report, in accordance with law, regulations and Board policies.
7. Where appropriate, convening the appropriate team to assess and/or address the situation that is the subject of the report, such as the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team, Section 504 Team, Behavior Support team, Multi-tiered System of Support Team (MTSS), or others.

The threat assessment team will use all information or records obtained in fulfilling the team's duty in accordance with law to evaluate a threat or to recommend disposition of a threat. Team members will not redisclose any record or information obtained or otherwise use any record of a student beyond the purpose for which the disclosure was made to the team, in accordance with law.

The threat assessment team will maintain confidentiality and handle all student records in accordance with applicable law, regulations, Board policy, the Student Records Plan, and the district's legal and investigative obligations. Threat assessment members whose other assignments and roles require confidentiality of specific student communications, in accordance with law, will ensure that all confidential communications and information are addressed in accordance with applicable law, regulations, Board policy, and administrative regulations.

Definitions

Behavioral Threat Assessment Team – means a threat assessment team established by board policy to complete the threat assessment process, determine and implement appropriate interventions for each case, and complete required reporting on each case. Also referred to as “BTA Team.”

Harmful, threatening, or violent behavior – includes but is not limited to, behaviors, such as verbal threats, threats of self-harm, bullying, cyberbullying, fighting, the use or possession of a weapon, sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, stalking, or assault, by a student that could result in:

1. Specific interventions, including mental health or behavioral supports
2. In-school suspension
3. Out-of-school suspension or
4. The student’s expulsion or removal to an alternative education program .

Behavioral Threat Assessment (BTA) – a fact-based process for the assessment of and intervention with students whose behaviors may indicate a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community, or others.

BTA Team

The Superintendent or designee will appoint individuals to a district threat assessment team and/or individuals to a threat assessment team at each school building in the district, including a designated team leader.

The team is responsible for developing and implementing the behavioral threat assessment program in compliance with Nevada State Statute rules at the district campuses served by the team.

The policies and procedures adopted must:

1. Be consistent with the model policies and procedures developed by NRS 388.1451-388.149 and 388.229-388.266
2. Require each team to complete training regarding the evidence-based threat assessment program to be used NTAC; and
3. Require the team established under this section to review the current information regarding the team’s activities.

BTA Team Membership and Responsibilities

The Superintendent or designee will ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, that the members appointed to each team have expertise in counseling, behavior management, mental health and substance use, classroom instruction, inclusive education, school administration, school safety and security, emergency management, and law enforcement.

The Superintendent or designee will establish a District level BTA Team to oversee the operations of teams established for the district. This Team should include members with expertise in education, special education, counseling, behavior management, school administration, mental health and substance use, school safety and security, emergency management, and law enforcement.

Each team will:

5. Conduct a threat assessment to determine the level of risk and appropriate interventions that may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Referring a student for mental health assessment;
 - b. Engaging local law enforcement agencies;
 - c. Referring to student’s IEP team or Section 504 team to review and address current behavior intervention plans;

- d. Address behavior in accordance with applicable disciplinary policies;
- e. Consider appropriate placement options;
6. Provide guidance to students and school employees on recognizing harmful, threatening, or violent behavior that may pose a threat to the community, school, or individual; and
7. Support the district in implementing the district's emergency operations plan when warranted.

BTA Team Training

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that threat assessment team members are provided individual and/or group training on:

1. Responsibilities of threat assessment team members.
2. Process of identifying, reporting, assessing, responding to, and intervening with threats or potential threats.
3. Identifying and avoiding racial, cultural, or disability bias.
4. Confidentiality requirements under state and federal laws and regulations, and Board policies.
5. Youth suicide awareness, prevention, and response.
6. Trauma-informed approaches.
7. Reporting procedures.
8. Best practices on threat assessments, interventions, and supports related to mental health.
9. Other mental health training required by state law.

Case Reporting Requirements

The threat assessment team will document, assess and respond to reports received regarding students whose behavior may indicate a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community, or others. The BTA Team will also assist in assessing and responding to reports that are received through SafeVoice identifying students who may be a threat to themselves or others. The threat assessment team will assist in assessing and responding to reports of students exhibiting self-harm or suicide risk factors or warning signs, as identified in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

When the threat assessment team has made a preliminary determination that a student's reported behavior may indicate a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community, or others, the team will immediately take the following steps:

1. Notify the Superintendent or designee.
2. Notify the building principal of the school the student attends of the reported threat, who will notify the student's parent/guardian of the reported threat.

When a reported student's behavior indicates that there may be an imminent threat to the safety of the student or others, or an emergency situation, a threat assessment team member will take immediate action, which may include promptly reporting to the appropriate law enforcement agency and school administration. Where a threat assessment team member has reasonable cause to suspect that a reported situation indicates that a student may be a victim of child abuse, the member will make a report of suspected child abuse in accordance with law and Board policy.

Adopted: June 9, 2024

Revised: Enter Date