

Strategic Plan | Specific Result Report

Goal 8 Action Plan Year 2 Priorities – 2018-2019

Call to Action:

Katy ISD learners, through active engagement, achieve individual success while making positive contributions in an ever-changing world.

Goal 8:

Katy ISD will actively support the emotional well-being of all learners.

Specific Result:

8.5 Implement a secure communication system for all stakeholders to report social and emotional concerns.

Summary Report:

Assessing mental health support has been a focus area throughout the 2019-2020 school year. A multi-disciplinary team of district-level personnel was formed to gain perspective from various departments to enhance existing, and develop new services pertaining to social and emotional concerns. Two new groups emerged out of this initial steps. They include the Katy Mental Health Intervention Team (KMHit) and the Safety and Security Analysis Center (SSAC).

KMHit was formed in May 2020, and is comprised of Katy ISD police officers trained in mental health, counselors and LSSPs. The purpose of KMHit is to provide consultation and directly respond to student and staff crises that involve mental health and risk of safety, including behavioral threats and suicidal ideation. KMHit has responded to 4 student concerns since May 2020.

The SSAC is comprised of five rotating law enforcement employees who provide 24/7 oversight of the district safety and security systems, including reports regarding mental health incidents.

Following the formation of these two teams, the groups identified and researched reporting systems for anonymous reporting of social/emotional and school safety concerns. This led to the development of SpeakUp, a reporting system that enables Katy ISD students, parents, and community members to anonymously submit safety and well-being tips to help prevent school related incidents that could cause harm to themselves or others. Tips that can be submitted may include bullying, weapons, suicide or self-harm, illicit drug use, inappropriate relationships, violence, and other safety and well-being concerns. In addition to submitting anonymous and secure tips, users can upload video and photo evidence. All tips are thoroughly investigated by campus personnel, police and/or a crisis management team. To date, the app has been downloaded by over 1,300 users. Likewise, more than 1,500 credible tips have been received and thoroughly investigated.

The District also has an established crisis hotline called KatyConnect. It is available 24/7 to secondary students who need to talk to someone about a problem they are experiencing. In addition to the phone line, there are texting and chat components which allow students to communicate concerns in the manner most comfortable for them.