

HENDRICK HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Pupil Personnel Services

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety and well-being of our students and staff remain our highest priority. To support a safe learning environment, our school uses the **Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG)**, which is a nationally recognized assessment, to help identify and respond to any situation in which a student's words or actions may indicate a potential safety concern.

What Is CSTAG?

CSTAG is a research-based model used in schools across the country to help teams assess and respond to student behavior that could be perceived as threatening. It is **not a disciplinary program**, but rather a prevention and early-intervention approach that focuses on:

- Understanding the context of a concerning statement or behavior
- Identifying student needs and providing appropriate support
- Reducing the risk of harm through problem-solving, communication, and collaboration
- Ensuring responses are fair, consistent, and developmentally appropriate

How Parents Are Involved

Parents and guardians play an important role in this process. If your child is involved in a threat assessment, whether as the student who made a concerning statement or as someone affected by it, you will be contacted promptly. Together, we will work toward ensuring your child's safety, well-being, and success.

Ensure you talk to your children about what is appropriate in school. This could include comments, drawings, finger gestures, social media posts, or even referencing certain video games.

Why This Matters

Our goal is to **prevent problems before they become serious** by addressing the underlying issues that may contribute to concerning behavior. CSTAG helps us respond in a calm, consistent, and supportive way that prioritizes safety for everyone while also keeping students on track in school.

If you have any questions about our CSTAG procedures or student safety practices, please feel free to contact **[Name/Title]** at **[phone number]** or **[email address]**.

Thank you for your partnership in keeping our school community safe.

Sincerely,

[Principal's Name]

[School Name]