

Threat Assessment Teams

Threat Assessment Teams are hereby established in each Chariho school to comply with RI General Law 16-21-23.2 and to improve response to credible threats, thus improving school safety, culture and opportunities to learn. Nothing in this policy shall preclude school district personnel from acting immediately, without convening the Threat Assessment Team, to address an imminent threat.

Each school shall establish a Threat Assessment Team that shall minimally consist of the principal or director, a mental health provider, assistant principal and/or lead teacher, district safety coordinator and the Chief of Police or designee. The principal or director shall lead the Team and shall develop and implement a meeting protocol, which shall include potential referrals for treatment. Credible threats shall be immediately reported to the Superintendent of Schools and Chief of Police, or respective designee(s) in their absence. All matters related to the Threat Assessment Team are to remain confidential and shall be considered to be part of the student record. Following a Threat Assessment Team meeting, a written report shall be filed with the Director of Special Education and notification to the parent/guardian shall be made by the building administrator or designee if the person making the threat is a current student. The Threat Assessment team may also make referrals to community services or health care providers for evaluation or treatment, as needed. The Standards for Student Behavior shall be implemented, as appropriate.

The Threat Assessment Team shall (1) provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community, school, or self; (2) make recommendations regarding members of the school community to whom threatening behavior should be reported; and (3) implement policies adopted by the local school board or committee.

The Superintendent of Schools shall establish a district committee to oversee and assess the effectiveness of the school-based Threat Assessment Teams. The oversight committee shall be the District Safety Team, which approves and critiques school-based Emergency Operation Plans, and whose membership shall include the member towns' chiefs of police, fire chiefs, emergency management agency directors and/or assistant directors, district safety coordinator, Assistant Superintendent, Director of Special Education, and School Committee representative.

The School Committee shall be notified of all credible threats.

Adopted and effective 9/10/19