




Strategies for Handling Threatening and Disturbing Behavior



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AGENDA

- Understanding the Range of Disturbing Behavior
- Sources of Disturbing Behavior
- 6 Strategies for Addressing Disturbing Behavior
- Summary
- Resources & Contact Info


Slide 2




Types of Threatening and Disturbing Behavior Impacting Schools


Slide 3


TYPES OF TROUBLING BEHAVIORS

- Threats of harm to self / suicide
- Threats of violence to others or the school
- Threats to damage reputation of school / leadership
- Threats of litigation
- Harassment
- Fixation / over-identification with school
- Stalking / pursuit of individual at school
- Abuse-related threats

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SOURCES OF TROUBLING BEHAVIOR

- Students (current / former)
- Employees (current / former)
- Family members of students / employees
- Alumni
- Parents
- Vendors / Affiliates
- Applicants
- Visitors
- External sources

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6 Strategies for Handling Threatening and Disturbing Behavior

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STRATEGY NUMBER 1

1. Establish Clear Policies on Prohibited Behavior

- What behaviors are prohibited?
- Rules for employees, visitors as well as students?
- Include flexibility in punishment
- Steer clear of zero-tolerance policies




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STRATEGY NUMBER 2

2. Create a CARE Team / Threat Assessment Team

- Multi-disciplinary membership
- Include security or local law enforcement
- Include mental health expertise
- Define team's jurisdiction




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STRATEGY NUMBER 3

3. Get Training in Behavioral Threat Assessment

- Provides steps to assess and defuse threatening and disturbing behavior
- Be sure to vet trainer credentials
- Train all team members at once, if possible
- Include tabletop exercises to gain practice




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STRATEGY NUMBER 4

4. Identify Resources in School and Community

- Develop list of support & intervention resources
- Develop points of contact for each
- Consider options in other regions
- Consider options available remotely




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STRATEGY NUMBER 5

5. Encourage School Community to Report Concerns

- Dispel misconceptions about threat assessment.
- Primarily support-focused process.
- Goals are to maintain safety and connect person with necessary help
- Reporting allows something to be done.
- Early reporting allows greater range of options.




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STRATEGY NUMBER 6

6. Assess and enhance school climate:


- Surveys for faculty, staff, students, parents
- Data-driven enhancements
- Student input for solutions and implementation
- **SHARE RESULTS!**




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Resources & Contact Information



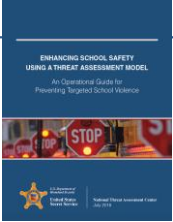

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 **RESOURCES**


Enhancing School Safety Using a Threat Assessment Model
www.SecretService.gov

Threat Assessment in Schools: A Guide to Managing Threatening Behavior and Creating Safe School Climates
www.SigmaTMA.com

The Final Report and Findings of the Safe School Initiative: Implications for the Prevention of School Attacks in the US
www.SigmaTMA.com



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