I. A threat assessment team shall be established at each school.

II. Each threat assessment team shall include persons with expertise in counseling, instruction, school administration, and law enforcement.

III. Threat assessment teams shall use the statewide behavioral threat assessment instrument when that instrument is developed by the Office of Safe Schools. Procedures for behavioral threat assessments consistent with the instrument will be developed upon the Office of Safe Schools making the instrument available.

IV. The duties of each threat assessment team include the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff or students consistent with model policies developed by the Office of Safe Schools. Threat assessment teams shall also identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior should be reported and 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.

V. Upon a preliminary determination that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to himself or herself or others, a threat assessment team shall immediately report its determination to the superintendent or his or her designee. The superintendent or his or her designee shall immediately attempt to notify the student’s parent or legal guardian.

VI. Upon a preliminary determination by the threat assessment team that a student poses a threat of violence to himself or herself or others or exhibits significantly disruptive behavior or need for assistance, authorized members of the threat assessment team may obtain criminal history record information, as provided in Florida Statutes. A member of a threat assessment team may not disclose any criminal history record information obtained pursuant to this section or otherwise use any record of an individual beyond the purpose for which such disclosure was made to the threat assessment team.

VII. If an immediate mental health or substance abuse crisis is suspected, school personnel shall follow policies established by the threat assessment team to engage behavioral health crisis resources. Behavioral health crisis resources, including, but not limited to, mobile crisis teams and school resource officers trained in crisis intervention, shall provide emergency intervention and assessment, make recommendations, and refer the student for appropriate services. Onsite school personnel shall report all such situations and actions taken to the threat assessment team, which shall contact the other agencies involved with the student and any known service providers to share information and coordinate any necessary follow-up actions. Upon the student's transfer to a different school, the threat assessment team shall verify that any intervention
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services provided to the student remain in place until the threat assessment team of the receiving school independently determines the need for intervention services.

VIII. The Superintendent of Schools, or his/her designee, shall develop procedures to implement the requirements of this Policy and Florida Law including but not limited to procedures for referrals to mental health services, when appropriate, and procedures to ensure that behavioral threat assessments are conducted in compliance with the instrument developed by the Office of Safe Schools.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.41, 1001.42, F.S.

LAW(S) IMPLEMENTED: 1006.07(7), F.S.

HISTORY: ADOPTED: 08/06/19