What behaviors warrant a student Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment process to be initiated?

A Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment (VTRA) process will be initiated when behaviours include, among other activities:

- ✓ serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill self or others
- ✓ verbal/written threats to harm or kill others
- ✓ Internet website/social media threats to harm or kill others,
- ✓ possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats and fire setting

Duty to Report

To keep our school communities safe and caring environments, staff, parents, students and community members must report all threat related behaviours. Every threat will be taken seriously, thoroughly investigated and a response and follow through intervention plans completed.

What is a threat?

A threat is:
- ✓ an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something.
- ✓ may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or through social media or made by gesture.

All threats will be taken seriously, investigated, and responded to.

SD 10 will take all threats seriously and work collaboratively with the Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment (VTRA) team to create effective intervention strategies for safety for all.

What is a Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment team?

Each school has a multi-disciplinary Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment (VTRA) team. The team may include the Safe School Coordinator, School Principal and/ or Vice Principal, School Counsellor, RCMP, MCFD worker and/ or Mental Health Therapist. It is important for all parties to engage in the student Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment (VTRA) process. If for some reason there is reluctance to participate in the process, by the threat-maker, parent or guardian, the threat assessment process will still continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment for all.

What is the purpose of a student Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment process?

The purposes of a student Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment are to:
- ✓ Ensure the safety of students, staff, parents, and others
- ✓ Ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- ✓ Begin to understand the factors that contributed to the 'threat-maker(s)' behavior
- ✓ Be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat-maker
- ✓ Promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

What happens in a student Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment process?

The process of a student Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment involves:
- ✓ All threat making behaviours by a student(s) shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the SD 10 protocol.
- ✓ Interviews will be held with the student(s), the threat-maker, parents/ guardians, and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident.
- ✓ Intervention plans will be developed and shared as required.

Student Threat Assessment: Fair Notice & Process

SD 10 is committed to creating and maintaining school environments in which students, staff, parents and others feel safe. Schools cannot ignore any threat of violence. This represents 'fair notice' to our communities that SD 10 will address all threats to self and/or others.

The model presented in this brochre reflects the thinking and work of J. Kevin Cameron, Director of the Canadian Centre for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response.

Contact Information

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What can students, staff, parents and community members do?

- ✓ Listen to children and youth
- ✓ Talk to your child
- ✓ Talk to your child's teacher and administration
- ✓ Take action
- ✓ Report any threat making behavior to any member of the Threat Assessment team (Principal, MCFD, MH, RCMP, SD10 Board Office) or, if immediate danger, call the RCMP
- ✓ ERASE Bullying is a Ministry of Education Initiative and stands for Expect Respect and A Safe Education. Check out the www.erasebullying.ca website for youth, parent and community

LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

Supporting Safe Schools

SD10 SCHOOL DISTRICT 10 ARROW LAKES
World Class Learning in a Rural Environment

School District 10 (Arrow Lakes)