

**THREATS**

**FILE: JICK**

**TITLE: Threat Assessment Teams**

**POLICY:**

The School Board of Orange County, Florida ("Board") finds it essential that all Orange County Public Schools ("OCPS") be safe and orderly to provide environments that foster learning; therefore, all statements, written or non-written, actions, or gestures that threaten the safety of any person or any OCPS school or facility, will be taken seriously, regardless of intent. All threats of harm to oneself or others shall be immediately reported to school administration and/or law enforcement, if applicable. In addition, to further the goal of school safety and in accordance with Section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, every school shall establish a threat assessment team. The responsibilities of the threat assessment team shall be consistent with Florida Statutes, State Board of Education Rules, model policies developed by the Florida Department of Education, Office of Safe Schools ("Office of Safe Schools") upon availability, and this policy.

- (1) Each threat assessment team shall include persons with expertise in:
  - (a) Counseling;
  - (b) Instruction;
  - (c) School administration;
  - (d) Law enforcement; and
  - (e) Any other OCPS employee deemed necessary by the threat assessment team or District that can provide valuable input, such as the mental health designee, staffing specialist, dean, etc.
  
- (2) Each threat assessment team shall follow procedures and guidelines set forth by the District and in accordance with Florida Statutes and/or State Board of Education Rules. These procedures include:
  - (a) The threat assessment team shall meet monthly, or as often as necessary to ensure that students are appropriately assessed and referred to services. However, if there is an imminent threat to school safety, then the principal/designee shall convene an emergency threat assessment meeting to address the imminent threat.

- (b) The threat assessment team shall 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.
  - (c) The threat assessment team shall consult with law enforcement when a student exhibits patterns of behavior, based on previous acts, which pose a threat to school safety.
  - (d) Upon a preliminary determination that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to himself or herself or others, the threat assessment team shall immediately report its determination to the Superintendent or designee. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Principal/designee shall immediately attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian. Nothing in this subsection precludes school district personnel from acting immediately to address an imminent threat.
  - (e) If an immediate mental health or substance abuse crisis is suspected, school personnel shall follow policies and procedures established by the Board and District, Florida Statutes, and/or State Board of Education Rules to engage behavioral health crisis resources, this may include, but is not limited to mobile crisis teams and school resource officers trained in crisis intervention.
  - (f) The threat assessment team shall utilize the behavioral threat assessment instrument developed by the Office of Safe Schools, pursuant to Section 1001.212, upon availability.
- (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, OCPs may share records or information with other agencies that are confidential or exempt from disclosure under chapter 119 if the records or information are reasonably necessary to ensure access to appropriate services for the student or to ensure the safety of the student or others.
  - (4) The threat assessment team shall report quantitative data on its activities to the District. The District shall then review the data submitted and report the data to the Office of Safe Schools in accordance with guidance set forth by the Office of Safe Schools. The District shall utilize the threat assessment database developed by the Office of Safe Schools upon the availability of the database.

**SPECIFIC AUTHORITY:**

Sections 1006.07; 1006.13, Florida Statutes

**TITLE:**           **School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting**

**POLICY:**

Incidents related to school safety and discipline shall be accurately reported in a timely manner to the Office of Safe Schools through the School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR) structure. OCPS will follow rules established for the requirements of the SESIR reporting upon availability by the Florida Department of Education.

**SPECIFIC AUTHORITY:**                   Sections 1006.07, Florida Statutes

ADOPTED:   8/20/2019

REVISED: