

File: EBCA

SCHOOL THREAT ASSESSMENT RESPONSE (S.T.A.R. Protocol) TO ALL THREATS OF VIOLENCE OR PENDING DISASTERS

Procedure: When events occur involving threats of violence or pending disasters that suggests the possibility of serious physical injury or death to students or staff, the following action will be taken:

- A. The person who becomes aware of the threat of violence or pending disaster will immediately contact the building principal or his/her designee and make them aware of the substance and content of the threat of violence or pending disaster. The building principal may conduct a preliminary investigation if he/she feels there is not an immediate pending danger to students and staff. The building principal or his/her designee will determine if the threat of violence or pending disaster should be handled internally by the principal or his/her designee or notify local law enforcement.
- B. If the building principal or his/her designee determines the threat of violence or pending disaster requires immediate attention of the authorities, the building principal or his/her designee will immediately activate the Threat Assessment Response Team by contacting the superintendent's office or another team member. The first team member notified is responsible for the notification of the other team members. Threat Assessment Team Members include:
 - i. The Pennington County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy or his/her designee (279-2424).
 - ii. The Wall Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee (279-2156).
 - iii. The Wall School Principals or their designees (279-2156).
- C. Once the Response Team has been activated, the Response Team members will meet at the Superintendent of School's office or other designated location and assess the threat to determine subsequent response. An assessment interview with the subject making the threat or information review in the possibility of a pending disaster, will be conducted to assess the available information in an attempt to determine the veracity of the threat of violence or pending disaster in order to decide what level of follow-up action is needed and appropriate.
- D. If the threat of violence or pending disaster is credible, the superintendent or his/her designee will determine the subsequent response which may include one or more of the following options:
 - The superintendent or his/her designee will issue one of three levels of the lockdown procedure until the situation is determined to be safe.
 - Contact appropriate authorities to assist in the search of the school for explosive devices.
 - Contact local authorities and request Deployment of officers and /or emergency personnel for additional security and safety of students and staff.

- The subject of a credible threat of violence may be dealt with in the following ways:
 1. Contacting the subject's parent(s) or guardian for input and assistance, which may include potential voluntary committal of the subject making the threat, or voluntary placement in a juvenile diversion program through the State's Attorney's Office.
 2. Application of the Child in Need of Supervision (C.H.I.N.S.) process through parental or guardian assistance, or through the State's Attorney's Office.
 3. Communication between the local authorities and the building administrator regarding school sanctions.
 4. Arrest and incarceration of the subject for Disturbance of School.
 5. Arrest and incarceration of the subject for Disorderly Conduct.
 6. Arrest and incarceration of the subject for simple or aggravated assault.
 7. Arrest and incarceration of the subject for probation violation, if the student is a court ordered probationer.
 8. Placement of the subject at the psychiatric unit on an involuntary mental hold.
- B. If it is determined the threat is not credible, or does not require application of the options listed in section "D", the building administrator shall assume responsibility to institute any further action deemed necessary.
- C. All appropriate paperwork associated with the action will be submitted as determined through the collaboration between the superintendent/designee and local authorities. The documents will be provided to the State's Attorney's Office, the Building Administrator involved, and to the Superintendent of Schools.
- D. All media released information will be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

(Updated 9/10/2010)