

Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment

FAIR NOTICE

Sun West School Division is committed to creating and maintaining school environments in which students, staff, parents/guardians/caregivers and others feel safe. Schools cannot ignore any threat of violence.

What is a threat?

- 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 made by gesture

Duty to Report

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents/guardians/caregivers, students and community members must report all threat related behaviors to the school principal.

What is the purpose of a Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment?

- To ensure and promote the emotional and physical safety of students, staff, parents, the student making the threat, and others
- To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- To understand the factors that contribute to the threat maker's behavior
- To be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker
- To promote the emotional and physical safety of all

What behaviors warrant a Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment to be initiated?

A Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment will be initiated for behaviors including, but not limited to:

- Serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill
- Verbal/written threats to harm or kill (clear, direct, and plausible)
- Online threats to harm or kill others
- Possession of weapons (including replicas)
- Bomb threats (making and/or detonating explosive devices)
- Fire starting
- Sexual intimidation or assault
- · Gang related intimidation and violence

What Parents and Students Need to Know?

- Any threat must be reported to the school principal
- Investigation may involve the student services counsellor, the police of jurisdiction, or other community agencies
- Investigation may involve locker or personal property searches
- Interviews will be held with the threat maker and other students or adults who may have information about the threat
- Parents of students who are directly involved will be notified
- Threatening behavior may result in disciplinary action
- An intervention plan may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any individuals targeted by threats.

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