

Background

In 1999, high profile school shootings in Canada and the United States initiated increased concern over school safety. Canadians were shocked at the violence of the Columbine tragedy, and eight days later were stunned that a school shooting incident took place closer to home in Taber, Alberta. The sobering reality led many school jurisdictions to look more closely as how to respond to violence in school, and how to respond to high-risk student behaviour.

The Student Threat Assessment protocols adopted by WRSD are based on the Traumatic Event Systems Model developed by Mr. Kevin Cameron. Mr. Cameron was the leader of the 1999 Taber Crisis Response Team, worked extensively to research the impact and predictive elements of traumatic aftermath, and is the President of the Canadian Council for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response.

It is reassuring and important to understand that the likelihood of over-reacting or under-reacting to threat behaviour is reduced when formal procedures are in place.



JHF5

J]c`YbhT\ fYUhF]g_

AggYgga Ybh

Parent Information Brochure



Wild Rose School Division is committed to providing a safe and caring school environment. The Board of Trustees recognizes that it has the responsibility to ensure the safety of its students. Every effort will be made to provide students with a safe learning environment.

Student Services
Wild Rose School Division

J]c`YbhT\ fYUhf]g_ AggYgga Ybh

What Behaviors Initiate a Student Threat Assessment?

A Violent Threat Risk Assessment may be initiated when the School Staff and community members along with the Threat Assessment Team deem it necessary.

Duty to Report

To keep communities safe and caring, staff, parents and students have a responsibility to report threat related behaviors

What is a Threat?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the internet or made by gesture. Threats will be taken seriously and investigated.

What is a Threat Assessment Team?

Each school has access to a Threat Assessment Team which is multi-disciplinary. The team may include representatives such as the Principal, Student Support Facilitator, Director of Student Services, Family Wellness Worker, Mental Health Therapist, Child and Family Services Rep, RCMP or other.

What are the Purposes of a Student Threat Assessment?

The purposes of a Student Threat Assessment are:

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

What Happens in a Student Threat Assessment?

All threat making behavior(s) by a student(s) shall be reported to the principal who will collaborate with trained personnel to determine actions to be taken.

Interviews may be held with the student(s), the threat maker, outside agencies, parents and staff

to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident.

Intervention plans will be developed and shared with parents, staff and students as required.

Can I refuse to be a part of the Student Threat Assessment process?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process.

If for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process the threat assessment process will continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment.

