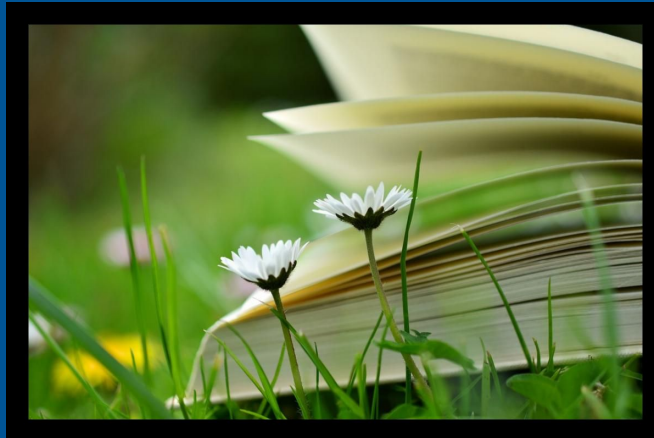
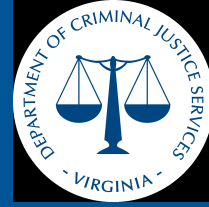


The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety



Spring Cleaning? Refresh Your Safety Initiatives This Spring!

A Message from VCSCS Director Donna Michaelis

This quarter, the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) invites you to join us in prioritizing new or renewed safety initiatives across your campus.

In this newsletter you will see new threat assessment resources, new crisis management training opportunities, a story of an exemplary SRO, and an invitation to our annual School Safety Training Forum coming up this summer.

Thank you for your continued partnership in making Virginia schools, campuses, and communities safer.

New Crisis Management and Critical Incident Response Training Opportunities

VCSCS is pleased to announce upcoming virtual trainings on the following topics:

- Preparing for a medical emergency on campus
- Standard Reunification Method
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design on school grounds
- Daily safety practices for the K-12 environment
- Planning for after-school activities
- How to debrief
- School-based drills
- Managing a social media crisis



[Sign Up for Training Notification Emails](#)

We are looking for localities to host these trainings in person!
If you have space to share, please contact us below:

[Email Ed Ewing](#)

New Behavioral Threat Assessment Resource Toolkits

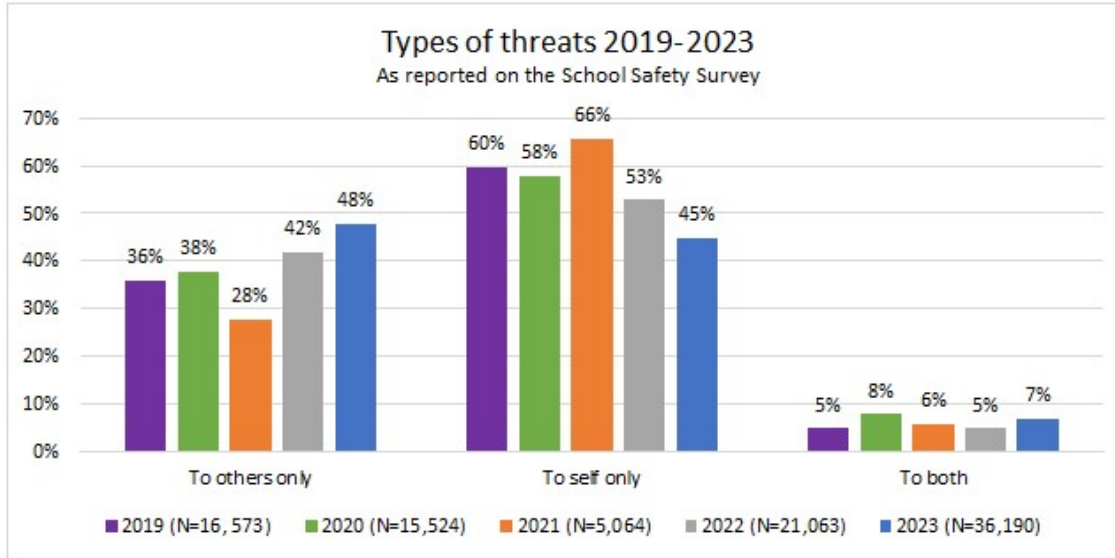


To help schools continue to meet the legislative requirements of making schools and communities aware of threatening, concerning, or aberrant behavior and of who to report it to as described in the *Code of Virginia* §22.1-79.4, VCSCS has created Behavioral Threat Assessment Resource Toolkits for K-12 schools and parents. The toolkits include videos tailored to educate each school level of students, parents, and staff on recognizing and reporting concerning, or aberrant behavior and can be found using the buttons below:

[Toolkit for Schools](#)

[Toolkit for Parents](#)

Data by the Numbers



[More Information](#)

Save the Date!



2024 Virginia School Safety Training Forum

Preparation and Partnerships: Breaking Down Silos to Improve School Safety

When: Tuesday July 30, 2024 8:00am - 4:30pm and Wednesday July 31, 2024 8:00am - 12:00pm

Where: Hampton Roads Convention Center - 1610 Coliseum Dr, Hampton VA

Lodging: The current state lodging rate is \$107/night + tax. We will have lodging blocks available at the Embassy Suites and other nearby hotels.

Important changes from previous years:

- No pre-conference sessions
- The main conference begins on Tuesday and ends on Wednesday
- The conference registration fee has been reduced to \$75 dollars
- Lunch will be “on your own”
- SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program grantees may include these expenses in their fiscal year 2025 budget for grant-funded personnel only.

What you can expect this summer:

You can expect the same high-quality conference experience as in years past! Conference registration, along with an opportunity to choose workshops in Sched will open in **May 2024**.

We look forward to having you join us for immediate takeaways from this valuable networking and learning opportunity!

[Register Now!](#)

SRO of the Quarter



Deputy Brandon Payne Amherst County Sheriff's Office

Superintendent Dr. Wells of Amherst County Public Schools jumped at the opportunity to honor Deputy Payne:

"In December 2023, one of our elementary schools faced a challenging incident when traces of fentanyl were discovered on a resealable bag that a caregiver packed in their student's lunch and was unknowingly brought to school. Seven students had contact with the bag and five of those students required medical attention. This situation demanded swift and decisive action, and Deputy Payne rose to the occasion with remarkable professionalism and poise.

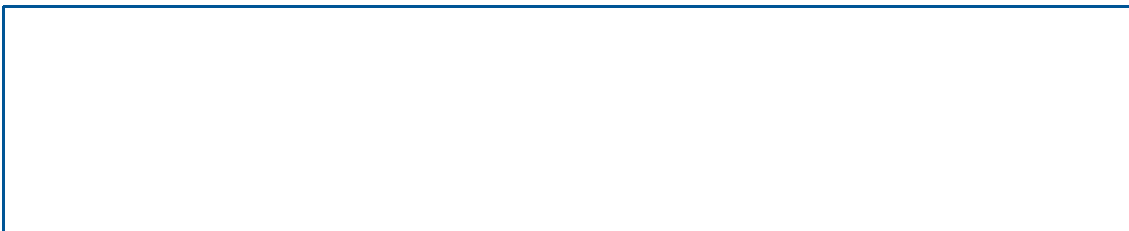
Deputy Payne promptly responded to the situation, coordinated with school authorities and local emergency services to ensure our affected students were given the appropriate care. He also worked with local law enforcement, and relevant authorities to ensure a comprehensive and thorough investigation was conducted. His expertise in handling delicate situations, especially within an educational setting, was evident as he took immediate steps to secure the area and protect both students and staff.

Deputy Payne exemplifies the qualities of a dedicated and proactive School Resource Officer, consistently going above and beyond to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff."

VCSCS recognizes the severity of the described incident, and are thankful to hear all the affected students were able to return to school within the week. Dr. Wells credits Deputy Payne's previously-established relationship with the school community, which leveraged trust from parents of the students involved, for a swift and successful outcome.

[Nominate an SRO/CSO/SSO](#)

In Memoriam





"Bob the Therapy Dog" had become a valuable support at VCSCS events, with many of you befriending this canine companion over the past few years. We are saddened to share that Bob passed away unexpectedly in February. All of us here at VCSCS extend our sympathies to Bob's parents, Kaylee and Joey Powell, and are thankful for the time we were able to share with him. Bob, you will be missed!

[Grants](#)

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