



## A Warm Winter Welcome



### From VCSCS Director Donna Michaelis:

Greetings! I, along with the hard-working staff in the Division of Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, are pleased to welcome you to our new newsletter! Each quarterly issue will inform you of upcoming projects, events, and partnerships. We hope to highlight the great work of our school-law enforcement partnerships across the Commonwealth as well. If you have questions, comments, or content to share, please reach out to us at [vcscs@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:vcscs@dcjs.virginia.gov).

In this issue, we are highlighting our work with our K-12 Digital Mapping Program, the 2022 Virginia School Survey of Climate and Working Conditions, the 2022 National Threat Assessment Conference for Educational Institutions, and preview what you can look forward to next quarter! Growing your knowledge and awareness of the resources DCJS can provide and share other relevant information is the goal. Your continued support at our trainings and conferences is very much appreciated as we constantly seek new ways to support your agencies in providing safe and supportive school environments. I want to thank you for your continued support. I look forward to working together to keep the safety of Virginia schools a top priority for all.

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## 2022 National Threat Assessment Conference - Virginia Beach, VA

Four hundred attendees congregated in Virginia Beach in October 2022 to engage on a variety of topics including the value of community-based threat assessment teams, interrupting the pathway to violence and mitigating threats, and response and recovery best practices. Attendees also received updates regarding current landscape of threat assessment from our federal partners within the United States Secret Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Department of Homeland Security.

We want to again thank all of our attendees, guests, and speakers for making this conference a success. If you weren't able to attend, we hope to see you next time!

### Threat Assessment Resources



### Digital Mapping for Schools

We are thrilled to partner with our 133 Virginia public school divisions to help fulfill the requirements of [HB741](#) by reimbursing up to \$6.5 million dollars to create digital maps of their K-12 school buildings across the Commonwealth to share with local first responders.

These maps are critical in assisting first responders during emergency incidents. The program will run through Spring 2023, so don't miss out on this opportunity!

Apply Now



### The Virginia School Survey of Climate and Working Conditions

The 2023 Virginia School Survey of Climate and Working Conditions is underway! All

licensed staff serving Pre-K through 8th grades and all 6th-8th grade students will be offered the survey this year. By collecting, analyzing, and sharing this data we can help ensure the schools we serve continue to foster safe productive learning environments. Please direct any questions [here](#).

Our 2022 Virginia School Survey of Climate and Working Conditions Report is live. Over 99.5% of eligible schools participated with response rates above 62%. Can we beat those percentages this year?

Take A Look

## School Safety Spotlight



Have you heard of Handle With Care Virginia yet?

We want to thank the [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#) and the [National Center for School Safety](#) who both shared articles about the program last quarter.

Handle With Care (HWC) connects first responders with children's schools to alert the school of a potential exposure to trauma. Any time law enforcement, fire, or EMS responds to an incident and there is a child on the scene, the school receives a notification of just the child's name and to "Handle With Care." This allows school officials to monitor for any behavior changes and provide trauma sensitive supports if needed.

The ultimate HWC goal is to help students succeed in school.

You can learn more about the program through an upcoming webinar "Impact of Trauma on Youth and Handle With Care Overview and Implementation" Thursday, February 9, 2023 from 9am-12pm.

Register Here

For more information visit the Handle With Care Virginia [website](#) or send us an [email](#).

**Next Issue: Look for information about our new online learning system!**

