

**Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
Division of Public Safety Training and the
Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (PST-VCSCS)**

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Memo No. VCSCS 23-003

MEMO To: Virginia Public School Superintendents, Administrators, School Resource Officers, and Threat Assessment Team Members

From: Donna Michaelis, Division Director, PST-VCSCS

Date: March 24, 2023

Subject: **New and Updated Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) Resources**

To provide ongoing assistance and resources to threat assessment teams, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is pleased to provide the following new and updated BTAM resources:

1. Behavioral Threat Assessment Resource Toolkits for schools and parents

The goal of the toolkits is twofold. First, to provide ready access to these valuable threat assessment resources. Second, to provide a link to new videos that help threat assessment teams meet the legislative requirements in the *Code of Virginia*, section C of [§ 22.1-79.4](#) to provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community, school, or self.

The VCSCS encourages the Commonwealth's schools and school divisions to utilize these resources and videos to aid their school communities to better understand the purpose of behavioral threat assessments, and the critical role threat assessment teams play in preventing potential violence in our schools. Additionally, we encourage schools and divisions to share the *Parent Threat Assessment Resource Toolkit* with parents/guardians to enhance their understanding of the behavioral threat assessment process. Resource Toolkits can be accessed here:

- [Behavioral Threat Assessment Resource Toolkit for K-12 Virginia Schools](#)
- [Behavioral Threat Assessment Resource Toolkit for K-12 Virginia Parents](#)

2. Newly revised Model Procedures, Policies, and Guidelines

The fourth edition of the "Threat Assessment and Management in Virginia Public Schools: Model Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines" can be accessed [HERE](#). The fourth edition includes legislative updates regarding SRO team membership along with the legislative updates regarding notifications of criminal acts to school authorities and law enforcement.

Additional questions regarding the resource toolkits or model policy updates may be directed to Brad Stang, via email brad.stang@dcjs.virginia.gov or telephone (804) 997-1278.