

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 24-004

MEMO To: All Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety Subscribers

From: Donna Michaelis

Date: October 23, 2023

Subject: **2023 BJA STOP School Violence Grant Funding for Development of Virginia's Threat Assessment Case Management Tool**

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services' (DCJS) Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) was recently awarded a grant from the federal Department of Justice, under the Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) *Student, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Grant* in the amount of \$1,998,940 over the next three years.

Funds from this grant will be used to develop and procure a Threat Assessment Case Management Tool with the capacity to process and analyze over 30,000 threat assessment cases annually for use by behavioral threat assessment teams throughout the Commonwealth. Other key elements of the project include a two-year pilot and a Public Service Announcement (PSA) Campaign to ensure that information about the preventative nature of Virginia's Threat Assessment process is effectively conveyed to key stakeholders.

Development of this tool and use in Virginia public schools is mandated through Virginia Code [§ 9.1-184](#) and [§ 22.1-79.4](#), so it is critical that it meets the needs of all divisions and interfaces effectively with the divisions' records management systems. Implementation of the case management tool will allow public schools to track all reported incidents of threatening, concerning, and aberrant behavior across their school and division. The tool will provide a method to share pertinent information with relevant parties and improve the identification of individuals that may be on the "Pathway to Violence", allowing for earlier intervention. The implementation of the case management tool will streamline the reporting process and reduce the legislatively required mandate to annually report quantitative threat assessment data to the VCSCS.

To date, six division leaders have offered to pilot the tool. The pilot is expected to impact at least 194 schools and over 160,000 students within one year of implementation. After the tool is fully implemented, it will impact over 2,000 schools and 1.2 million students in Virginia within six years. At the end of the grant period, the data and information from pilot school divisions will be compiled and the tool will be rolled out to the remaining school divisions.

To ensure a smooth implementation, an advisory committee is currently being formed to guide the process. VCSCS looks forward to collaborating with local school divisions, mental health professionals, and law enforcement agencies to maximize the effectiveness of the project initiatives. To pilot the case management tool in your division, or be considered for service on the Threat Assessment Case Management Advisory Committee, please contact one of the VCSCS staff members below:

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