

The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety presents:

## Strengthening Connections: Challenging Conversations to Enhance School Safety

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The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

Register for DCJS Trainings & Events

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The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

- **Donna Michaelis**, Manager
- **James Christian**, K-12 School Safety Coordinator
- **Marc Dawkins**, Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Coordinator
- **Shellie Evers** – K12 Conference Coordinator
- **Kristina Fawcett**, Administrative Specialist
- **Albert Stokes**, Program Specialist- Gangs and Violent Crime
- **Jessica Smith**, Program Specialist- School and Campus Security
- **Vacant**, LE Grants Monitor
- **Vacant**, LE Grants Monitor

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The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

**What do we do?**

- Provide **training** for stakeholders
- Develop and disseminate **resources** to improve school safety
- Facilitate the **annual school safety audit** pursuant to § [22.1-279.8](#)
- Provide **technical assistance** for Virginia School Divisions
- Develop **partnerships** to promote school safety and campus in Virginia

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**Virginia C.A.R.E.S.**

- C: Caring and Connection;
- A: Awareness;
- R: Recognition;
- E: Engagement; and
- S: Support.

A multi-pronged approach to engagement and awareness in schools that will include [videos](#) and resources on threat assessment and other climate and safety related topics.

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The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

Coming Soon!

- School- Police Partnership Implementation Guide
- **Model MOU** for School Divisions and Law Enforcement Agencies
- NEW School Resource Officer and School Administrator Training
- **School- Law Enforcement Partnership Implementation Guide**

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Annual Conferences:

- **School Climate Conference**  
November 29-30, 2016 in Richmond
- **The Briefings: A School and Campus Safety Symposium** – April 2017
- **School & Campus Safety Training Forum**– August 8-10, 2017 in Hampton

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Training

- **Next Steps in Crisis Management Planning:** 12/5 and 12/6
- **SRO, SSO, and School Administrator Training** 2/27, 5/8
- **Human Trafficking for Educators**
- **K12 Threat Assessment and TTT**
- **Basic Gang Awareness for School Personnel**
- **Autism Awareness**
- **Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid**
- **Adult Sexual Misconduct**

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2017 Principal Forums will address:

- **Trauma Informed Discipline Practices**
- **Adolescent Brain Development and Appropriate Interventions**
- **Latest Research on the School to Prison Pipeline and Disproportionate Minority Representation in Discipline Practices**
- **Legal Issues around the school- law enforcement partnership**
- **Restorative Practices vs Punitive Practices**

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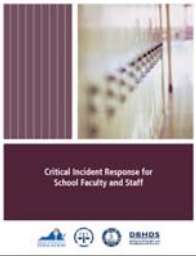

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The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

**Resources**



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**Resources**



Threat Assessment Video and Guide

<https://youtu.be/JS7m3RUy9c0>

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**Technical Assistance**

- Threat Management Consultant  
Dr. Gene Deisinger,



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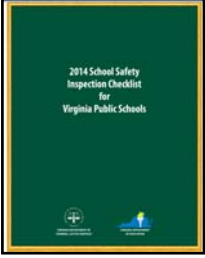
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DCJS  
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services  
www.dcj.virginia.gov

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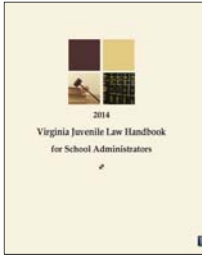
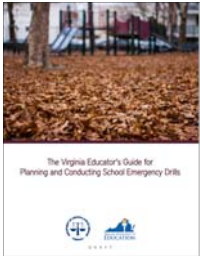
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**Resources**



DCJS  
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services  
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### School Safety Audit

The Code defines the audit as a **“written assessment”** of the safety conditions in each public school and asks schools to:

- (i) “identify and if necessary, develop solutions for physical safety concerns,** including building security issues and
- (ii) identify and evaluate any patterns of student safety concerns** occurring on school property or at school sponsored events.

Solutions and responses **shall include recommendations for structural adjustments, changes in school safety procedures, and revisions to the school board’s standards for student conduct.”**




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### School Safety Audit

#### Great News!

Statewide results for students on school climate:

- The majority of students described positive and supportive relationships with their teachers and other adults at school.




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### School Safety Audit

- Students endorsed the view that most teachers (and other adults at school) want all students to do well (86%), care about all students (75%), and treat students with respect (74%).




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### School Safety Audit

- 95% of students reported that there was **at least one teacher or other adult** at their school who really wants them to do well.



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### School Safety Audit

- Majority of students have favorable perceptions of their school's rules and disciplinary procedures.
- 72% said there was an adult at school they could talk with if they had a personal problem.



Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services  
www.dcps.virginia.gov

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### School Safety Audit

- Students reported that their school rules are fair (65%), that the punishment for breaking school rules is the same for all students (60%), and that students are treated fairly regardless of their race or ethnicity (76%).



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### School Safety Audit

- Strong student engagement in school was reflected in the high percentages of students who said they liked school (83%), are proud to be a student at their school (81%), and feel like they belong at their school (76%).



Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services  
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### School Safety Audit

**Not So Great News.....**

**Safety conditions.** Most students (82%) reported that they feel safe in their school, but this appears to be an area for improvement.

- 36% of all students reported that bullying is a problem at their school and 6% reported being bullied once or more per week at school this year.



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### School Safety Audit

- Many students reported that students are teased or put down about their clothing or physical appearance (64%), sexual topics (52%), sexual orientation (38%), and race or ethnicity (36%).



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**School Safety Audit**

- A substantial number of students reported that another student stole something from them (33%), physically attacked, pushed, or hit them (18%), or threatened to hurt them (23%) at school this year.

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**School Safety Audit**

A new section of the survey asked about the prevalence of bullying by teachers or other adults at school.

- Approximately one-quarter (23%) reported that there were teachers (or other adults) who bully students and nearly half (44%) who perceived that some teachers pick on certain students. A small percentage (4%) reported being bullied themselves by a teacher (or other adult) at school since the beginning of school last fall.

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**School Safety Audit**

New questions about sexual harassment at school in the past 12 months.

- Particular concern for female students who reported being the recipient of unwelcome physical contact of a sexual nature (21%), sexual comments, jokes or gestures that made them feel uncomfortable (38%), sexual rumors (21%), and being repeatedly asked to go out or do something they did not want to do (23%).

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### School Safety Audit

- Only 28% of students who reported being teased or bullied at school told a teacher or other adult what happened. However, the majority (62%) reported that it seemed to help the situation get better, with 33% reporting that it made no difference and 5% that it made the situation worse.




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### School Safety Audit

- Overall, Virginia high school students and their teachers and staff reported that their schools are safe and supportive places for learning.
- Teachers and staff reported that their students generally treated them with respect, but about half (48%) had experienced a student who said rude or insulting things to them at least once during the school year and a smaller percentage reported being threatened (10%) or physically attacked (4%).




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### School Safety Audit

- One area of concern is that **teachers have mixed views of the consistency and effectiveness of school discipline**. Another concern is that many teachers reported not knowing about the student threat assessment process in their school. The individual school survey reports prepared for each school can provide a springboard for examination and discussion of these issues as part of the school improvement process.




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### School Safety Audit

- Individual school survey reports are prepared for each school and can provide a springboard for examination and discussion of these issues as part of the school improvement process.

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### The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

#### What can we do for you?

- Training- scholarships, location, and new ideas
- Resources and Legislative Guidance
- Grant Funding Opportunities
- Research
- Building Partnerships with localities and other state and federal partners

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### The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

#### Questions?

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