**Galena Park ISD – Threat Assessment Teams**



GPISD Partnered with Texas State – Texas School Safety Center

**SENATE BILL 11 (86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION)**

Senate Bill 11 of the 86th session of the Texas legislature made significant changes to Subchapter D, Chapter 37, of the Texas Education Code, relative to threat assessment and parent notification in Texas public schools. This bill requires Campus Threat Assessment teams, tracking of actions taken relative to students who make threats, and notification of parents if serious threats are made.

Galena Park’s Threat Assessment Screener to reduce the risk of violence, increases school safety, identifies educational needs and support services for students who have made a threat, and provides reasonable and accepted practices for violence prevention.

Campus Student Threat Assessment Teams take appropriate action when there are indications that a student is planning to commit a violent act. The Campus Student Threat Assessment Team (C-STAT) is composed of the Principal, Associate Principal/Campus Behavior Coordinator, Assistant Principal, Counselor, Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (as appropriate), School Resource Officer, and other individuals who have significant contact with the alleged aggressor. A threat assessment is conducted when a person (or persons) threatens to commit a violent act or engages in behavior that appears to threaten an act of violence.

**Subchapter D. Sec. 37.113.  NOTIFICATION REGARDING BOMB THREAT OR TERRORISTIC THREAT.**A school district that receives a bomb threat or terroristic threat relating to a campus or other district facility at which students are present shall provide notification of the threat as soon as possible to the parent or guardian of or other person standing in parental relation to each student who is assigned to the campus or who regularly uses the facility, as applicable (Texas Education Code

The District Threat Assessment Team follows up with the campus when a threat is determined to be a substantive threat to provide additional assessment, guidance, and safety planning. Members of the District Student Threat Assessment Team (D-STAT) are Assistant Superintendent and Executive Director for Administrative Support, the District Licensed Professional Counselor, Department of School Culture & Climate, Director of Special Education, GPISD Chief of Police, Senior Director for Emergency Management.

**TRAINING:**

 All Campus Student Threat Assessment Team (CSTAT) meet regularly with the District Lead Threat Assessment team for trainings and statewide updates.  All Galena Park ISD Threat Assessment team members have are mandated to complete the 8-hour Basic School Safety Training. The District Student Threat Assessment Team members received initial and on-going training from our partners at the Texas School Safety Center Annual Meeting, and also have extensive training in threat assessment and mental health assessment.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

 Galena Park ISD began its Threat Assessment Program in the Spring of 2019 as a comprehensive approach to prevention and school safety. Campuses are expected to report and investigate all threats of violence immediately and work actively to prevent acts of violence before they occur, using a Multi-Tiered System of Support, including PBIS/Foundations, Character Education, SEL resources, the district’s Behavioral Health and Wellness Department, Legacy Clinics, McKinney-Vento, and community resources.

 **IMPROVEMENT/MONITORING:**

  All Campus Student Threat Assessment Team members are retrained as needed annually, with new quarterly topics added. As audits demonstrate the need for campus improvements, site visits are conducted for retraining campus staff on threat assessment processes. Campus Behavior Coordinators are retrained at quarterly training. The Department of Administrative School Support also partners with the Department of Mental Health and Wellness and the Department of Special Education to offer supportive services to students who have made threats or been victims of threats.

 **WHAT PARENTS AND STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW:**

* + - Any threat must be reported to the school Principal or any campus administrator
		- The investigation may involve the District threat assessment counselor or psychologist, the police, or other community agencies
		- The investigation may involve locker or personal property searches
		- Interviews will be held with the threat maker and other students or adults who may have information about the threat
		- Parents of students who are directly involved will be notified
		- Threatening behavior may result in disciplinary action
		- An intervention plan may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any individuals targeted by violence.

**METHODS TO REPORT THREATS**

 Any individuals wishing to report concerns for threats of school violence may notify any school personnel, administrator, or Chief of GPISD Police Department. Suspicious or illegal activities that take place on school property should be reported immediately to school administrators.

**PARENT NOTIFICATION**

 The student’s parent or guardian shall be notified if any prohibited articles or materials are found in a student’s locker or vehicle parked on school property, or on the student’s person as a result of a search conducted in accordance with this policy.

**COLLECTION NOTICE:**

 The Galena Park Independent School District is subject to personal information privacy laws and will undertake the collection of this information in compliance with the requirements of such laws, including by limiting collection to information that is relevant and necessary to address a risk or threat and by ensuring that information is collected from an online source is only obtained from open-source sites. The Galena Park School District will not collect information as part of a threat assessment unless there is reason to believe that a risk exists. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.