Threat Assessment Procedures

Threat Assessment Team (TAT):

What is a Threat Assessment Team?

- The Threat Assessment Team (TAT) is comprised of North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics staff members who are responsible for identifying, assessing and managing threats in order to foster a safe campus environment.

Why is Threat Assessment Necessary?

- The goal of threat assessment is to intervene before an attack or any intended harm can occur. Incidents of targeted violence at schools are rarely sudden, impulsive acts.
- The key to threat assessment is to discover these potential persons and get them help before acts of violence can occur.

Safe School Initiative Study:

Identified Ten Key Findings Related to “Targeted School Violence”:

- Incidents of targeted violence at school are rarely sudden, impulsive acts.
- Prior to most incidents, other people knew about the attacker’s idea and/or plan to attack.
- Most attackers did not threaten their targets directly prior to advancing to attack.
- There is no accurate or useful “profile” of students who engage in targeted school violence.
- Most attackers engage in some behavior prior to the incident that caused others concern or indicated a need for help.
- Most attackers had difficulty coping with significant losses or personal failures. Moreover, many had considered or attempted suicide.
- Many attackers felt bullied, persecuted, or injured by others prior to the attack.
- In many cases, other students were involved in some capacity.
- Despite prompt law enforcement responses, most shooting incidents were stopped by means other than law enforcement intervention.

Campus Member Responsibilities:
Be Vigilant:

- It is the responsibility of all employees, students, staff and visitors at NCSSM to be alert to the possibility of violence from any person on or off campus.
- Acts of violence, threatening comments or threatening behavior can come from prospective current or former employees or students as well as campus visitors.

If You See It, Report It:

- Reporting can be done anonymously.
- To a member of Campus Safety and Security.
- To a Community Coordinator.
- To a member of Counseling Services.
- To a member of the Chancellor’s Office or Vice Chancellor’s Office.
- To your immediate supervisor (or a second level supervisor if the alleged perpetrator is the immediate supervisor).

Must Report:

Potentially threatening situations that must be reported by employees or students may include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal or overt threats made directly against students, faculty, staff or other campus officials.
- Threats made indirectly by telephone, text messaging, in writing, over any forms of social media or through interpersonal contacts.
- Any communication or behavior suggesting an individual’s intent of committing suicide or potential violent act.
- Weapon-seeking or weapon-using behavior.
- Communications or writings that suggest that the student has unusual or worrisome interest in school attacks.
- Anger problems wherein the individual has difficulty controlling anger.
- Behavior relating to stalking of a particular individual or individual(s).
- Behavior related to violence or cruelty.
- Behavior that indicates that an attack is being planned.

If there is an active or immediate risk of violence to self or others contact Campus Safety and Security immediately at (919)416-2711.

If there is a life threatening emergency call 911 first.