



## JICDD – BEHAVIORAL THREAT ASSESSMENTS

The District has the authority to conduct a behavioral threat assessment to identify, assess and manage potentially dangerous or violent situations and for behaviors occurring on District property, on the District computer network or District devices, in a District vehicle, at a District or school-sponsored activity or event, or off District property when such behavior has a reasonable connection to school or any District curricular or non-curricular activity or event. This policy applies to students. Threat assessments for behaviors or situations involving staff or community members are not included in this policy.

### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy, these terms have the following meanings:

- **“Behavioral threat assessment”** is a proactive approach to identify, assess and provide appropriate interventions and resources for students who display behavior that elicits concern for the safety of themselves or others. It is not a criminal investigation, a checklist, or a disciplinary process. Rather, threat assessments offer schools a method to understand the whole picture surrounding a wide range of potentially violent situations and craft a plan to intervene appropriately.
- **“Behavioral threat assessment team”** is a multidisciplinary team that may vary depending on the needs of the school and District, and may include the following roles, as needed: behavioral threat assessment coordinator, school administrators, law enforcement, mental health professionals, teachers, school counselors.

### **Responsibilities of Employees and Parents/Caregivers**

The safety of students, employees, the school, and community are a District priority. Employees who are aware of a student whose behavior, actions and/or communication may pose a threat either to that student or to others in the school or community must report the concern to an administrator. Parents or community members who are aware of a student whose behavior, actions and/or communication may pose a threat either to that student or to others in the school or community are encouraged to report the concern to a school administrator. The student should be evaluated in accordance with the District's threat assessment procedures, subject to the behavioral threat assessment team's discretion.

## **Purpose and Process for Behavioral Threat Assessment**

The purpose of a behavioral threat assessment is to:

1. Identify, assess, and manage threats: The behavioral threat assessment process is designed to recognize potentially dangerous or violent situations early;
2. Distinguish legitimate threats: The behavioral threat assessment process helps schools differentiate between non-credible threats and actual risks of targeted violence, ensuring appropriate responses.
3. Connect students to support: The ultimate goal is to link students with schools and community-based interventions, ideally within a comprehensive multitiered system of support that fosters a positive school climate and effective discipline practices.

A behavioral threat assessment may be conducted without consent from the student's parent/caregiver, but the District will provide notice and an opportunity to participate in the process. Parent/caregiver participation is not required for completion of a behavioral threat assessment and the District will proceed with an assessment and response based on information available at that time.

If information suggests the need for law enforcement assistance, the District will promptly request such assistance.

## **Students Supported with an IEP or 504 Plan**

Behavioral threat assessments conducted for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) will be conducted in accordance with IDEA and Section 504.

## **Student Records**

As addressed in District Policy JRA/JRC – Student Records/Release of Information on Students, the District must have written permission from the parent/caregiver or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record, unless an exception applies. However, as indicated in District policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), schools are permitted to disclose student records, including behavioral threat assessments, in certain circumstances without parental consent, including to appropriate officials if the disclosure is in connection with an emergency and knowledge of the information disclosed is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons, or if the disclosure is to state or local officials and concerns the juvenile justice system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records are disclosed as provided under the Colorado Open Records Act and Colorado Children's Code.

Adopted by Board: May 23, 2023, effective July 1, 2023

Revised by Board:

**Cross References:**

JRA/JRC - Student Records/Release of Information on Students

**Legal References:**

C.R.S. 22-1-123 (Protection of student data-parental or legal guardian consent for surveys)

C.R.S. 24-10-106.3 (Claire Davis School Safety Act)

20 U.S.C. 1232g (Family Rights and Privacy Act)

20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq., (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)

29 U.S.C. 794 et seq., (Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Section 504)