



SAFE SCHOOLS

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**GREATER ESSEX COUNTY
District School Board**

451 Park St. West, Windsor, Ontario N9A 6K1
"Building Tomorrow Together!"

**For additional information
please contact your school Principal.**

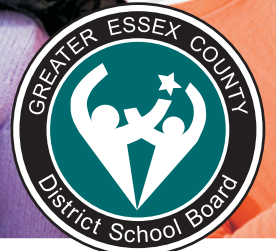
Fair Notice and Process

Student Threat Assessment



The Greater Essex County District School Board in partnership with the community, provides learning opportunities which support, challenge, and inspire all students to achieve their full potential and enable them to participate meaningfully in their communities.

GECSB MISSION STATEMENT



Beliefs

Beliefs are an expression of an organization's fundamental values and convictions. The BELIEFS of the Greater Essex County District School Board reflect the shared vision and values of everyone within our organization.

- *All students can learn.*
- *A safe, stimulating, caring, and welcoming environment, which accommodates individual student learning styles and needs, promotes and facilitates the learning process.*
- *Planned, comprehensive programs and services enrich the lives of learners.*
- *Well prepared, motivated educators can make a significant positive difference in the lives of our students.*
- *Family and community interaction with the school promotes and enhances student success.*
- *Embracing diversity and celebrating creativity strengthens our school system and enriches all of us as Canadians.*
- *Open, honest, interactive communication builds trust and commitment.*
- *Skilled, caring and motivated employees are an integral part of our success and our future.*
- *Effective planning and fiscally responsible decisions are necessary to direct our limited resources to maximize the learning process.*
- *We are accountable for our decisions.*

It is the obligation and duty of the Greater Essex County District School Board...

to promote a safe environment in its schools and Board properties for students, staff, parents and the community. Safe environments are created through the planning, implementation and regular review of a variety of initiatives. Furthermore, the GECDSB holds that violence, expressed in any form, **will not be tolerated** and that all partners have a responsibility in its prevention.

Towards this end, the GECDSB has adopted a **Threat Assessment Protocol** that addresses the issue of student threat-making behaviour. Should the school Principal in consultation with the school Superintendent and the School Based Threat Assessment Team (SBTAT) make a determination that a threat exists at which time membership in the team may be enhanced to include members of the community trained in threat assessment (Community Based Threat Assessment Team CBTAT).

What Behaviour May Initiate a Student Threat Assessment?

If a student engages in serious violence, possesses a weapon or threatens to harm him/herself or someone else - whether in a comment, gesture or written remark - the school may respond by implementing the Student Threat Assessment Protocol.

Duty to Report

Consistent with the GECDSB's Safe School Policy, all threat related behaviour must be reported to the appropriate administrators.

Who is the Student Threat Assessment Team?

All GECDSB administrators along with psychological services personnel, social workers and guidance counselors have been trained in assessing student threat making behaviour. If circumstances warrant, then the Principal or designate will involve trained representatives from children's mental health, community policing and/or personnel from other relevant agencies.

What is the Purpose of a Student Threat Assessment?

The purpose of a threat assessment is to ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others. The completion of this protocol assists GECDSB staff in determining appropriate intervention strategies to assist the student and promote safety.

What Happens in a Student Threat Assessment?

In the initial phase all threat making behaviour(s) made by a student is brought to the attention of the principal who will initiate the protocol and may consult with the Supervisors of Psychological Services and Social Work Services.

During the initial stage, parents, guardians, or caregivers can expect their child to be interviewed by one or more of the personnel of the TAT. In addition, parents, guardians or caregivers as well as the classroom teacher and/or supports are typically interviewed to complete the threat assessment process.

If it is determined that an imminent danger exists then an emergency protocol will be followed. The completion of the threat assessment protocol assists GECDSB staff in determining what actions will be taken in any case (legal, disciplinary, mental health evaluation, etc.) to assist the student and promote safety.