

## *Southeast Kootenay School District Code of Conduct Guiding Principles*

### **We believe:**

- that all students and staff have a right to learn and work in a safe, respectful and productive environment.
- a positive, productive and responsible attitude will create strong communities.
- that everyone can learn to make appropriate choices for themselves and for others.
- that all communication needs to be based on courtesy and mutual respect.
- that diversity among students and staff is to be respected, but commonly accepted rules for conduct will apply to all. Age, maturity, cognitive ability and previous behaviour will be taken into consideration when defining unacceptable behaviour and the consequences that follow.

### **General Guidelines for Success**

Everyone shares the responsibility of behaving in ways that will make our schools a special place where people are valued and where excellence in performance is the commonly shared goal. Inappropriate behavior is that which disrupts the teaching and learning environment of the school, creating greater difficulty for students to have success.

## *Summary: Fair Notice*

1. All students and staff have a right to learn and work in a safe, respectful and productive environment.
2. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to. Schools in Southeast Kootenay School District have zero tolerance for not responding to serious violence or threatening behaviours.
3. A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. It may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or made by gesture.
4. All threat making behaviour(s) by a student(s) shall be reported to the Principal, who will activate the Southeast Kootenay School District protocol.
5. Following an investigation, a comprehensive plan, involving the support and participation of community agencies, will be developed to bring positive change, safety and well-being for all students and staff.

**Southeast Kootenay School District**  
**940 Industrial Road No. 1**  
**Cranbrook, B.C. V1C 4C6**  
**Phone (250) 426-4201**  
**[www.sd5.bc.ca](http://www.sd5.bc.ca)**

# **Student Threat-Violence Risk Assessment**

## **Fair Notice and Process**



**Southeast Kootenay School District**

The model presented in this document reflects the thinking and work of J. Kevin Cameron, Director of the Canadian Centre for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response.

## What Behaviours warrant a Student Violence Threat/Risk

### Assessment to be initiated?

A Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment will be initiated when behaviours include, among other activities, serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill, verbal/ written threats to harm or kill others, Internet website/MSN threats to harm or kill others, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats and fire setting.

### Duty to Report

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and community members must report all threat related behaviours. Every threat must be taken seriously, thoroughly investigated and a response and follow through completed.

### What is a threat?

- An expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something.
- May be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or made by gesture.

Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to. Schools in (Southeast Kootenay School District have zero tolerance for not responding to serious violence or threatening behaviours.

## What is a Violence Threat/Risk Assessment Team?

Each school has a multi-disciplinary Violence Threat/Risk Assessment Team. The team may include the School District Threat Assessment Safety Officer, Principal or Vice-Principal, School Counsellor, Youth Care Worker, Aboriginal Education Support Worker (when appropriate), and others.

It is important for all parties to engage in the Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment process. If for some reason there is reluctance to participate in the process, by the threat-maker or parent/guardian, the threat assessment process will still continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment for all.

## What is the purpose of a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment?

The purpose of a Student Violence Threat/ Risk Assessment are:

- to ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others
- to ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- to begin to understand the factors that contribute to the threat-maker's behaviour
- to be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat-maker
- to promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

## What happens in a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment?

The process of a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment:

- All threat making behaviour(s) by a student(s) shall be reported to the Principal, who will activate the Southeast Kootenay School District protocol.
- Interviews will be held with the student(s), the threat-maker, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident.
- Intervention plans will be developed.

# VTRA

## Mission Statement Southeast Kootenay School District

To provide students with equitable, quality educational opportunities in a safe, supportive environment through the efforts of a caring, professional team in cooperation with students, parents and communities.