

In 2019, the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Governor enacted new requirements for K-12 school entities related to the establishment of threat assessment teams and related policies and procedures. Act 18 of 2019 amended the PA Public School Code to establish Article XIII-E (threat assessment), which provides for responsibilities of school entities and tasked the School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC) within the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) with providing implementation supports. Specifically, Section 1303-E of the PA Public School Code charged the Committee with developing model procedures and guidelines that:

- (i) Establish standard definitions and terminology
- (ii) Reflect best practices in identifying, reporting, assessing and responding to threats, including threats reported through the Safe2Say program, and coordinating with stakeholders.
- (iii) Provide for flexibility and local decision making and recognize the differing levels of available resources in each school entity.
- (iv) Be posted on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency publicly accessible Internet website.

In order to be in compliance with these requirements and to ensure adequate supports and resources for our student population, the Dallas School District has assembled a district level Threat Assessment team. This team is comprised of varied school personnel with the shared goal of identifying, assessing, and resolving potential student threats via a multidisciplinary approach.

DSD Threat Assessment Team

- **District Safety Coordinator** - *Jacob Sholtis, Director of Operations*
- **Administrator** - *Jacob Sholtis and Dan Natitus, DHS AP*
- **School Counselor and/or Mental Health Professional** - *Julianna Borzell, DMS School Counselor*
- **Special Education Representation** - Shannon Forrer
- **Ad Hoc** - *Jaclyn Degnan, Home School Visitor*
- **Local Law Enforcement** - *Officer Gina Kotowski, Dallas Twp. Police*

**The DSD Threat Assessment is engaged both regularly and as needed when relevant information is provided.*