Dear Superintendents,

As you know, the 86th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 11 which enacted Texas Education Code (TEC) § 37.115, among others. This new section of the TEC mandates the creation of a Safe and Supportive Schools Programs (SSSP) for all local education agency (LEA) school campuses. In addition, the new legislation mandated all LEAs report certain data to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in the manner and format required by the agency.

The agency understands the hardships all LEAs endured during the prior school year and that challenges are still being faced in the current school year. Therefore, the agency is continuing to phase-in the mandatory data reporting requirement for your SSSP teams. This questionnaire is the first step of the phase-in process and comprises two parts. The first part of the survey is the mandatory reporting requirement for the time period of September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. The second part is a set of voluntary questions to help TEA understand what gaps and needs LEAs may still have in terms of implementation of their SSSP program. The information collected by this survey is subject to open records requests to the extent they are not protected by FERPA or subject to other student educational data access restrictions. All data collected will be used by TEA for the primary purpose of continuous improvement of the SSSP and its implementation across Texas.

We appreciate your continued dedication to the education of Texas students and your participation in the survey. In summary, part one is the mandatory section that must be completed for your LEA. The second part is voluntary, but your responses would be very helpful in developing future guidance and training. The survey opens November 1, 2021 and closes on November 30, 2021.

If you have questions about the survey, please contact Craig Goralski, TEA Safe and Supportive Schools Program Manager, by email at Craig.Goralski@tea.texas.gov .

Mike Morath
Commissioner

Instructions & Definitions
The behavioral threat assessment team is now called the Safe and Supportive School program (SSSP) team. The name change is due to the inclusive and comprehensive nature of our approach to school safety, in which threat assessment is one function of the overall SSSP team. For further explanations on this process please look for updates on the TEA School Safety website as well as model policies and procedures that are posted on the Texas School Safety Center webpage located at https://txssc.txstate.edu/tools/tam-toolkit/.

Data reporting period: Status of SSSP teams, threats, and training from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

A "threat" is a concerning communication or behavior that indicates that an individual poses a danger to the safety of school staff or students through acts of violence or other behavior that would cause harm to self or others. The threat may be communicated behaviorally, orally, visually, in writing, electronically, or through any other means, and is considered a threat regardless of whether it is observed by or communicated directly to the target of the threat or observed by or communicated to a third party, and regardless of whether the target of the threat is aware of the threat. Threats also include behaviors, such as threats of self-harm, bullying, cyberbullying, fighting, the use or possession of a weapon, sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, stalking, or assault, by a student that could result in:

- specific interventions, including mental health or behavioral supports;
- in-school suspension;
- out-of-school suspension; or
- the student's expulsion or removal to a disciplinary alternative education program or a juvenile justice alternative education program.

Mandatory Questions

1. Please enter the name of your school district or system. (Select from drop down menu).

2. Please enter your school district number (Select from drop down menu).

3. Please enter the name of your county. (Select from drop down menu).

4. Has your LEA established a Safe and Supportive School Program Team(s)? Yes/No

5. If Yes to question no. 4, answer the following (if no, automatic skip over to no.6):

    a. Number of campuses in your LEA served by your SSSP team(s)? (enter number)
    b. How many people from your LEA's SSSP team(s), have been trained in the Behavioral Threat Assessment prior to September 1, 2021 (enter number)?
    c. Estimate the extent to which your team(s) are trained in behavioral threat assessment at the time of this survey (select one):

        i. All team members
        ii. More than half of the team members
        iii. Less than half of the team member
        iv. No team members are trained

6. Provide the following data regarding threats in your LEA for the 2020-2021 school year:

    a. Number of threats reported (enter number)
    b. Number of threats assessed as not posing a risk and not referred for interventions or help/supports. (enter number)
    c. Number of threats assessed as not posing a risk but referred for interventions or help/ supports. (enter number)
    d. Number of threats assessed as posing a risk and referred for interventions or monitoring (enter number)

e. Number of threats assessed as posing an emergency/eminent risk and referred to law enforcement, the superintendent and referred for interventions and monitoring (enter number)

Optional Questions

7. Grief and Trauma informed Training

   - Number of district or open-enrollment charter school personnel who regularly interact with students (enter number)
   - Number of district or open-enrollment charter school personnel with regular student interaction) who will need training in the 2021-2022 school year. (enter number)
   - Number already trained (enter number)

8. Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention Training

   - Number of district or open-enrollment charter school staff who regularly interact with students
   - Number of district or open-enrollment charter school personnel with regular student interaction who will need training in the 2021-2022 school year. (enter number)
   - Number already trained. (enter number)

9. Indicate whether the expertise categories listed below are represented by persons appointed to your SSSP team(s):

   a. Classroom instruction (yes/no)
   b. Special Education (yes/no)
   c. School administration (yes/no)
   d. School counseling/professional school counselor (yes/no)
   e. Behavior management
   f. Mental health and substance abuse (yes/no)
   g. Law Enforcement (yes/no)
   h. School Safety/Security (yes/no)
   i. Emergency Management (yes/no)
   j. Human Resources (yes/no)

10. If you believe your SSSP team(s) as a whole lacks expertise in the categories listed in question 9, are you able to share resources with other internal or external partners to fill in this gap? (Yes, No, N/A).

11. What further training do you believe your threat assessment SSSP team members need to be more effective?   Select all that apply:

   a) Promoting a positive school climate
   b) Building multi-tiered systems of support
   c) Conducting behavioral threat assessments
   d) SSSP team data collection pursuant to TEC § 37.115 reporting requirements
   e) Supporting emergency planning and execution