



STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 23, 2018
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: School Safety Specialist Designees, School Counselors, Nurses
From: Ben Castillo, Director
Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning
Register by: November 11, 2018

Safe Schools, Safe Futures: K-12 School Threat Assessment Training

The New Jersey Department of Education's Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning (OSPEP), in partnership with The Koshka Foundation for Safe Schools, is announcing Behavioral Threat Assessment for K-12 Institutions training. Grounded in research, threat assessment and threat management are recognized as the current best practices for preventing targeted school-based violence, as well as workplace violence and campus violence.

In this one-day basic course, participants will learn guiding principles of threat assessment and management, including how to identify and investigate threats and other disturbing behavior in schools; step-by-step procedures to gather information and assess threats; and, where necessary, how to develop and implement plans to reduce risk and help maintain school safety. Participants will also gain an understanding of current state models of threat assessment to help inform and create their own procedures and processes.

The presenter, Dr. Gene Deisinger, is a principal and co-founder of SIGMA Threat Management Associates, LLC, a professional-services firm that works with experts in psychology, law, organizational development, security, and law enforcement. In 2008, Dr. Deisinger and SIGMA co-founder Dr. Marisa Randazzo published *The Handbook for Campus Threat Assessment & Management Teams*, which has been recognized by the American National Standards Institute as exemplifying best practices for implementing and operating campus threat assessment and management teams.

Target Audience

The class is appropriate for school personnel, school security professionals, law enforcement professionals, emergency management professionals, mental health professionals, and anyone else involved in addressing threatening behavior. Schools are strongly encouraged to register multiple representatives from their campus or district to facilitate conversation.

Register online for one of the training sessions:

- [Thursday, November 15](#) at the Morris County Public Safety Academy in Morristown.
- [Friday, November 16](#) at the Hamilton Technology Center in Hamilton Township (Mercer County).

School Safety Specialists attending this training will receive credit toward their annual training requirements.

Contact Information

Questions regarding the SSS training program or requirements can be directed to the Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning at school.security@doe.nj.gov or (609) 588-2323.

c: Members, State Board of Education
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