

POLICY

Queen Anne's County Public Schools

POLICY TITLE: Children Who Threaten to Harm Themselves or Make Serious Threats of Violence	
ADOPTION/EFFECTIVE DATE: June 05, 2002	
POLICY/PROCEDURE MANUAL SUMMARY CATEGORY: Students Amendments:	

A. Purpose: This policy outlines actions to be taken in the event of threats or acts of violence against oneself, others or property. Screening Procedures, Lethality Assessments, Life Contracts, Verification for Return to School, Threat Assessment Documentation and various Risk Assessments for violent juvenile behavior are outlined.

B. Policy Statement: The Queen Anne's County Public School System believes that school must be a safe place for students and staff.

C. Rationale: Children and staff must be assured that they are attending school in a safe environment each day. There are a few children who may threaten to harm themselves and/or others. Processes must be in place to assist that student population. The interdisciplinary approach improves the efficiency and scope of the assessment process, provides diverse professional input and minimizes the risk of observer bias.

D. Definitions:

1. Threat – An expression to do harm or act violently against oneself, other or property.
2. PST – Pupil Service Team
3. Assessment – Various instruments to be used to determine if a student is at imminent risk to harm themselves. Included by limited to: Lethality Assessment/Student Interview, ACUTE (Adolescent & Child Urgent Threat Evaluation), PETRA (Psychosocial Evaluation & Threat Risk Assessment), PERT (Psychiatric Evaluation Response Team) done at a hospital.

E. Implementation: The Superintendent shall develop Administrative Regulations to implement this policy.