

Student-Witness Interview

Level One Protocol

Please complete the student-witness interview right after the student interview and parent/guardian interview so that you have greater perspective on what happened prior to answering the Level One questions. If a student-witness is not available please indicate why:

- There is no student witness in this case. Student-Witness is currently incarcerated
- The Student – Witness is currently in a Psychiatric Inpatient facility
- Student Witness is otherwise detained
- Student-witness declines to participate

This interview is only to be conducted by an administrator, SRO, or school counselor as a supplement to the Level One Screening Protocol. Address the following questions through an interview or open-ended inquiry with the student or students of concern (who is/are in a situation that poses a threat).

Do NOT ask the student to read and complete the questions by themselves.

Although the student can provide crucial information regarding a situation, do not delay the Level One Assessment if the student is not available or is unwilling.

The following is an examination of current circumstances; as these circumstances change, so too does risk potential. Therefore, review the results of this interview while being mindful of supervision, intervention, and the passage of time. Each question is a prompt for exploration of circumstances that may involve the escalation of violence.

Equity Pause

What is the interviewer's relationship with the student? Difficult Neutral Positive

- If you feel you may not have the best rapport with the student, or you find yourself triggered by the actions and behaviors of the student of concern, please consider having someone else perform the interview with the student to make sure that it is conducted in a trauma-informed way.

Student's Name: Date:

Interviewer's Name:

Address the student and describe the perceived threat, dangerous situation, or violent action that has brought this situation to your attention. Explain our obligation and responsibility to investigate and assess all situations that may be dangerous for the student, other students, and/or staff.

Ask the following questions through conversation or direct inquiry:

1. It has been reported that you witnessed a threat. Can you tell me what happened?

2. When did this happen? Who is/are involved in the threat/situation? If yes, do you know how they are involved?

3. What exactly was said (written, posted, drawn, filmed, or otherwise communicated)? Do you have any screen shots of the potential threat that you can share with us?

4. Do you know exactly who was threatened? Do you have an idea as to why they might have been threatened?

5. Do you know if there is a plan to hurt anyone? What is that potential plan?

6. Do you know if any of the students who are involved with the threat have weapons or access to weapons (including knives, swords, bats, explosives, etc.)?

7. Have any of the students involved done anything that would make you think they are practicing or preparing to follow through on the threat and harm someone?

8. Are there multiple people involved in this situation? Do you know if there is a clear leader/main student or adult that seems to be leading the group?

9. What do you think of this situation? Is this something that happens frequently at school? Is the potential threat, behavior, or concern we raised typical for this school site?

10. Is there anything else you think we should know about this situation?

11. What do you think would help this situation or the student(s) of concern?