
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KELLY RILEY
FROM: SHANTA ELIZENBERRY DAVIS
SUBJECT: THREAT ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL MEETING - JULY 23, 2001 @ 10:00AM- 12:00NOON
DATE: 7/24/2001
CC: MICHAEL BOYD

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Division of School Safety hosted this informational meeting on how to handle student threats. The Mississippi Institute of School Safety will sponsor six Threat Assessments Protocol Workshops, which will consist of about seven hours of training designed to utilize multidisciplinary teams to determine whether the student's threat is creditable.

Mr. Robert Laird was the presenter, who discussed intervention steps to prevent potentially violent acts. Mr. Laird used material from the FBI's program titled "The School Shooter: A Threat Assessment Perspective". This model is not a profile of school shooter or checklist of dangers signs pointing to the next adolescent who will bring lethal violence to a school. This program offered state agency an evaluating method once a threat is made. The state agency in attendance working together for this collective effort is the MDE Division of School Safety, Office of the Governor, Office of the Attorney General, Mississippi Department of Human Service (MDHS) Division of Family & Children's Services also the MDHS Division of Youth Service, the State Board for Community & Junior Colleges, Mississippi Department of Mental Health, and the Mississippi School Board Association. This meeting lasted two hours and each attendee participated in the development process of the planned protocol to present to the school districts superintendents.

This process can work. The multidisciplinary teams are already established in schools and this information will help establish a protocol of proactive behavior for the school districts. Current legislation about school safety laws are placed in committee for a final vote to become laws. The Mississippi Code of 1972 section 37-15-3; section 43-21-253 & 261 governs this issue of school safety. The concern of the attendee was the sharing of students' cumulative and disciplinary records from private to public school districts.

Attached are the material received and a list of attendees. Thank you for the opportunity to attend this meeting and learn how our schools are taking a proactive role to keep the students and employees in a safe school environment.