

KTJ

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October 7, 2019

For any questions or comments you might have regarding this newsletter, please feel free to contact:

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SCHOOL LAW GROUP

E-NOTE

EFFECTIVE AUGUST 26, 2019, THE SCHOOL SAFETY DRILL ACT WAS AMENDED TO REQUIRE ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO IMPLEMENT A THREAT ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE THAT MUST CREATE A MANDATED THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAM



The School Code has been amended by Public Act 101-0455 to require all school districts to implement a threat assessment procedure that must create a threat assessment team. The threat assessment team must be established within 180 days of the effective date of the amendment that is by February 23, 2020.

105 ILCS 128/45 (new section)

The complete amendment is available at:

[Public Act 101-0455](#)

A detailed summary of the amendment is included hereafter.

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THREAT ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

New section 128/45 of the Illinois School Code provides that each school district must implement a threat assessment procedure that may be part of a school board policy on targeted school violence prevention. The procedure must include the creation of a threat assessment team that must include all of the following:

- (1) An administrator employed by the school district or a special education cooperative that serves the school district and is available to serve.
- (2) A teacher employed by the school district or a special education cooperative that serves the school district and is available to serve.
- (3) A school counselor employed by the school district or a special education cooperative that serves the school district and is available to serve.
- (4) A school psychologist employed by the school district or a special education cooperative that serves the school district and is available to serve.
- (5) A school social worker employed by the school district or a special education cooperative that serves the school district and is available to serve.
- (6) At least one law enforcement official.

If a school district is unable to establish a threat assessment team with school district staff and resources, it may utilize a regional behavioral threat assessment and intervention team that includes mental health professionals and representatives from the State, county, and local law enforcement agencies.

The threat assessment team must be established within 180 days of the effective date of the amendment and the school district must implement an initial threat assessment procedure no later than 120 days after the effective date of the amendment.

Public Act 101-0455 also amended Section 128/25 of the School Code to include procedures regarding the school district's threat assessment team to be included in the mandated annual meeting to review each school building's emergency and crisis response plans, protocols, and procedures (105 ILCS 128/25)