

To the Administrator Addressed



DATE:

April 1, 2021 Safe and Supportive Schools Program (SSSP) Updates Information SUBJECT:

CATEGORY:

NEXT STEPS:

- (5) Collection of SSSP data to continuously improve the program^v
- (6) Support of facility safety and security, including planning and implementation of the multi-hazard emergency operations plan^{vi}

Please also refer to the below <u>resources table</u> on page 3 of this letter for additional information and support in implementing each of the six components of the SSSP.

LEA administrators are further reminded that TEC, §37.115(f)(1) and (2) require each SSSP team to conduct a threat assessment that includes assessing and reporting individuals who make threats of violence or exhibit harmful, threatening, or violent behavior in accordance with the policies and procedures adopted by each LEA. Moreover, those procedures must be consistent with the model policies and procedures developed the TxSSC and TEA. LEAs must also continue to gather and analyze data to determine the level of risk and appropriate interventions for each threat assessed. (See further data collection information below.)

Finally, TEC, §37.108, requires LEAs to adopt and implement a multihazard emergency operations plan for use in the LEA's facilities. The plan must address prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery as defined by the Texas School Safety Center in conjunction with TEA and other entities as applicable. The plan must also provide for strategies that ensure professional development training for suicide prevention and grief-informed and trauma-informed care is provided to appropriate school personnel; that provisions are made in alignment with best-practice based programs and research-based practices recommended under TEC, §38.351, formerly Section 161.325 of the Health and Safety Code; and address other provisions to align related policies, procedures, and strategies into the plan.

SSSP Data Collection

TEA understands the continuing challenges and hardships all LEAs are enduring during the current 2020-2021 school year. Therefore, in order to ease the burden on LEAs, TEA will continue to phase in the SB 11 mandatory data reporting requirement for the SSSP teams. In November 2021, TEA will again issue a survey via Qualtrics to all school districts and openenrollment charter schools to collect data regarding LEA behavioral threat assessments conducted by SSSP teams, team training received, a0 Q()]TJETO 0 1 315.38 237.33 Tm00 1BT/F3 1231 0 4(r)-4(v)

(4) Promote awareness, guidance, and training resources for students and school employees on preventing, recognizing, and responding to harmful,