



*Pembina Trails Fair Notice and Practice*

# Student Threat Assessment



**Pembina Trails**  
School Division

The Pembina Trails School Division is committed to creating and maintaining school environments in which students, staff, parents and others feel safe. Schools cannot ignore any threat of violence.

## What Behaviours Initiate a Student Threat Assessment?

A Student Threat Assessment will be initiated when behaviours include, but are not limited to: serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill, verbal and/or written, including online threats and possession of weapons or bomb threats and fire setting.

## Duty to Report

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and all community members must report all threat related behaviours.

## What is a Threat?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to.

For more information on this topic, please review the **Standard of Behaviour** brochure for the Pembina Trails School Division (translated into 6 different languages) which is available on our website at:

[www.pembinatrails.ca/community/divisionalguidelines.html](http://www.pembinatrails.ca/community/divisionalguidelines.html)



## What is a Threat Assessment Team?

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multidisciplinary. The team may include Principal, Vice-Principal, School Social Worker, School Psychologist, Counsellor and Police.

## What is the Main Purpose of a Threat Assessment?

The purpose of a Student Threat Assessment is ...

- To ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others.
- To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat.
- To begin to understand the factors that contribute to the threat maker's behaviour.
- To be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker.
- To promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

## What happens in a Student Threat Assessment?

All threat making behaviour(s) by a student(s) shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the protocol for the initial response.

Once the team has been activated, interviews may be held with the student(s), the threat maker, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. Intervention plans will be developed and shared with parents, staff and students as required.

**Pembina Trails School Division Policy Link:**  
[www.pembinatrails.ca/community/divisionalpolicies.html](http://www.pembinatrails.ca/community/divisionalpolicies.html)

Go to section J (student) then click on JICM Risk Threat Assessment.

\*This document reflects the work of J. Kevin Cameron, Director of the Canadian Centre for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response.

## Can I refuse to be a part of the Student Threat Assessment process?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However, if for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process, by the threat maker or parent/guardian, the Threat Assessment process will continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment.

## **The Mission of the Pembina Trails School Division**

Pembina Trails is dedicated to educational excellence through challenging and enriching experiences for all, in a safe and caring community.

### **In the Pembina Trails School Division, we value ...**

1. the learning and dignity, respect and well being of all.
2. a safe and welcoming environment.
3. the diversity and the uniqueness of all.
4. a shared common purpose that inspires and strengthens our commitment, responsibility and accountability to each other.
5. honest, respectful and timely communications.
6. participation in ongoing, collaborative decision making processes.
7. social and environmental responsibility.
8. vision, innovation, enthusiasm and involvement.

### **In the Pembina Trails School Division, our vision is to ...**

1. promote challenging learning opportunities that support individual growth in a respectful environment.
2. ensure a welcoming environment where everyone is emotionally and physically safe.
3. care for each other and the world in which we live.
4. promote a sense of community and belonging by valuing meaningful participation in decision making.
5. recognize and celebrate the unique and diverse gifts of all.
6. commit to a common purpose that will inspire combined efforts to achieve outstanding results and personal satisfaction.
7. communicate effectively by sharing information in an honest, respectful manner.
8. embrace purposeful change and renewal.
9. live our values.