



BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES

Safe learning environments for elementary and secondary school students, educators, administrators, and others are essential in building safer communities. Everyone – whether a member of the school community or a resident of the area – has a role in identifying potential threats to a school and sharing that information with those who can take action to assess and manage the risk. Although rare, a single act of targeted school violence impacts students, teachers, the community, and at times the entire nation. Consider what role you can play in the larger efforts to make our schools safer.

Tips to Foster Safer Communities:

- Schools Should Foster a Positive School Climate
- Schools Should Identify Concerning Behaviors and Maintain a Threat Assessment Team
- Promote Information Sharing Between Schools and Community Stakeholders
- Liaison with Law Enforcement and First Responders
- Require Consistent Training Among Stakeholders

Documents and reports for NYS First Responders:

- NYS Education Department, NYS Police, NYS Office of Homeland Security, NYS Emergency Management Office, **New York State School Safety Guide**, email: info@safeschools.ny.gov
- US Department of Transportation, **2012 Emergency Response Guidebook**
<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/library/erg>
- US Department of Education, **Practical Information on Crisis Planning**
<http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/emergencyplan/crisisplanning.pdf>
- Federal Emergency Management Agency, **Guide for Active Shooters and Mass Casualty**
http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/active_shooter_guide.pdf
- U.S. Secret Service and US Department of Education, **Final Report and Findings of the Safe School Initiative: Implications for the Prevention of School Attacks in the United States**
http://www.secretservice.gov/ntac/ssi_final_report.pdf
- U.S. Secret Service and US Department of Education, **Threat Assessment in Schools: A Guide to Managing Threatening Situations and to Creating Safe School Climates**
http://www.secretservice.gov/ntac/ssi_guide.pdf
- U.S. Secret Service and US Department of Education, **Prior Knowledge of Potential School-Based Violence: Information Students Learn May Prevent a Targeted Attack**
http://www.secretservice.gov/ntac/bystander_study.pdf

For more information: www.secretservice.gov/ntac.shtml

