

Notification of Threats of Violence
Declaration of Policy

The District is committed to a safe and civil educational environment for all students, employees and volunteers, free from threats of violence or other physical harm. It is further the District's policy to take necessary steps to appropriately address both the person(s) making the threats and notify the subject(s) of such threats or the existence of the threats.

Definitions;

1. The term "*individual directed threat of violence*" shall mean any of the following, when they are directed at an individual person or individual persons:
 - a. A communication, however received or discerned, constituting a threat to cause physical harm to a person or the person's family, when the physical harm is such that constitutes physical injury or death, and when such threat reasonably causes fear of suffering physical injury or death;
 - b. A communication, however received or discerned, constituting a threat to cause substantial property damage to property belonging to a person or a person's family (other than any school building or school property belonging to the District) in such a manner so as to be likely to cause physical harm in the process;
2. The term "*building directed threat of violence*" shall mean a communication, however received or discerned, constituting a threat to cause substantial property damage to a school building, school property or other tangible asset belonging to the District, in such a manner, and with the intent, to cause injury to occupants or users of such buildings, property or tangible assets (*e.g.*, bomb threat);

A threat or threats of violence, whether they are *individual directed threats of violence* or *building directed threats of violence* is prohibited and, under certain circumstances, constitutes a criminal offense.

1. If the threat is made by a student and is made (a) on campus during school sponsored activities including sports activities, (b) on any district-provided transportation or at any official school bus stop, (c) utilizing school-provided or owned/leased electronic computer equipment, (d) or is received with the assistance of school provided or owned/leased electronic computer equipment, then the students shall be subject to discipline pursuant to District disciplinary policy including, if appropriate, referral to law enforcement, or any other District or community-based social services as appropriate.
2. If the threat is made by a non-student and is directed at (a) a student, staff member, administrator or any member of their families, (b) a school building, or any other District owned or leased asset, or (c) is otherwise reasonably calculated to disrupt school activities or the student learning environment, then the situation shall be dealt with according to the District's safety and violence policies including its comprehensive Safe Schools policy including notification of District Administration and law enforcement authorities as necessary.
3. Anytime a threat is made and a person, or finite group of persons, can be identified as the likely target of the threat, then steps should be taken to advise such a person or group of persons of the existence of the threat, as soon as practicable.

4. The Superintendent is directed to develop and implement rules and procedures consistent with the policies stated herein.

Legal References:	20 U.S.C. § 1232g	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
	34 C.F.R. Part 99	FERPA Regulations
	RCW 28A.300.285	Harassment, intimidation and bullying prevention policies
	RCW 28A.320.128	Notice and disclosure policies –
		Threats of violence – student conduct –
		Immunity for good faith notice – Penalty
	WAC 392-400	Pupils

(Formerly #4314)

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Richland School District #400