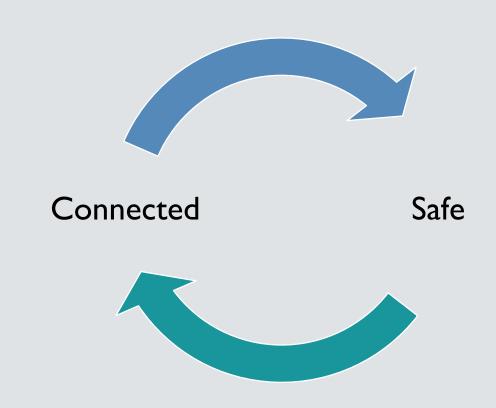
# DRAFT 03/16/2020 School Safety & Climate Initiative

Contributors: Kris Bosworth Ph.D., Jean Ajamie, Stihlyn Chamberlain

#### What Makes a School Safe?

 A school that is free from threatening, violent, and criminal behaviors.

 Allows staff, students, and the community to feel connected to the school and able to participate in its major functions – teaching and learning.



#### A Safe School is Free From...

- Violent behaviors that compromise the learning environment and put health and safety in jeopardy.
  - Bullying and harassment
  - Fights and assaults
  - Alcohol, drug use and sales
  - Theft, vandalism, and property damage
  - Situations of extreme violence, or bomb threats

### **Effective Interventions**

To have effective interventions, each school needs an infrastructure including

- Teams
  - School safety team
  - Threat Assessment team
- Data for decision making
  - Internal and external
- Staff for professional development
  - Emergency response plan (ERP)
  - Bullying
  - Suicide
- Liaison
  - District
  - Community

## **School Safety Spectrum**

The school safety spectrum includes:

Prevention

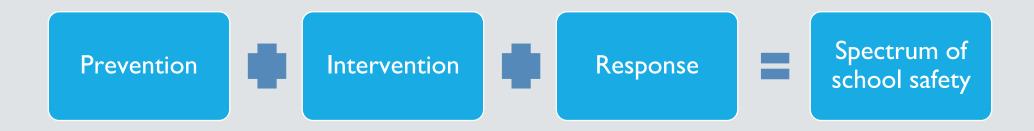
Intervention

Response

## **School Safety Spectrum**

 Because of the range and complexity of issues and responsibilities encompassed in school safety a <u>spectrum</u> of strategies must be considered to address school safety.

 This spectrum includes strategies for prevention, intervention and response strategies.



#### **Prevention**

- Prevention: includes schoolwide strategies that promote healthy behaviors and reduce the likelihood of adverse behaviors and incidents
  - For example, positive and supportive school climate
  - A positive and supportive school climate is foundational to a school safety plan.

## What are Prevention Strategies?

- They are universally applied to the entire school community
- Examples include:
  - Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
  - Evidence-based social-emotional learning (SEL) programs
  - Violence and <u>substance use prevention</u> curricula
  - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Prevention strategies provide the greatest return on investment for a school community

### Intervention

- Intervention: includes strategies that identify and support students with risk factors or signs of problematic behaviors
  - Threat assessments allow staff to intervene <u>before</u> the situation escalates to the response stage.

# What are Intervention Strategies?

- Intervention strategies include intervening when students show signs of dangerous or threatening behavior. For example:
  - Threat Assessment
    - Both human and cyber threats
  - Student Assistance Programs (SAP)
  - Referral for services

## Response

- Response: includes an effective response plan that can be implemented when an incident of violence or potential harm has occurred.
  - An emergency response plan allows for a uniform response in the wake of an emergency. Which decreases confusing in the school and with outside emergency services

## What Are Response Strategies?

- Provide resources or options to mitigate dangerous or threatening situations to the school community. For example:
  - Emergency preparedness
    - Emergency response plan
  - Crisis response
    - Suicide, natural disaster
  - After care

## **In Summary**

- The school safety spectrum includes prevention, intervention, and response strategies.
- Prevention and school climate interventions are crucial as they can help resolve issues before they reach the intervention and response stages.
  - Your plan <u>must</u> include actions for these areas.

## What are the Next Steps?

- First step is to evaluate your schools infastructure
- Examine what your school is doing now regarding the school safety spectrum now that the information from this presentation is fresh in your mind.

## Thank You!

The School Safety & Climate Initiative is a proud partner with the University of Arizona and Arizona State University.

Contact Information: Kris Bosworth Ph.D. (boswortk@email.arizona.edu)



