



ATTACHMENT A
Student Interview Questions

Instructions:

Student interviews are conducted by the school counselor, school psychologist and/or school social worker. This form must be completed by the interviewer as part of the behavior threat assessment process. This is a semi-structured interview with ten numbered themes the interviewer explores. Documentation must be kept of the student's responses to help inform the threat level and support needed. This form should accompany other threat assessment forms in the student's Limited Access File and the online Behavior Threat Assessment Tracking System.

STUDENT FIRST NAME	STUDENT LAST NAME	STUDENT ID

RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Interviewed by:

Role:

Date:

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Rapport Building Questions

(Some students may need some activities such as drawing to help with building rapport. Visuals (i.e., feelings chart) may help the student in answering and/or understanding questions.)

a. It seems like you have been having a hard time lately, what's going on?

b. Why do you think you have been asked to meet with me?

c. Can you tell me what happened?

d. What is your understanding of why the adults at school are concerned?

e. In order to help me better understand what happened and be able to help you, I am going to ask you some more questions?

1. What are the individual's motive(s) and goals? What first brought the individual to someone's attention?

a. *How did you feel when _____ happened?*

b. *Why did you say/do that?*

c. *Do you still feel that way?*

d. *How do you think it made (other people/target of threat) feel?*

e. *How can we make this better?*

f. Gather information from parents, teachers and other sources to help address additional questions.

2. Have there been any communications suggesting ideas, intent, planning or preparation for violence?

a. *Have you told anyone else about your desire to harm (the individual or group mentioned) or your plan to do so?*

b. *What did you mean by that?*

c. Gather information from parents, teachers, students, and other sources.

3. Has the individual shown any inappropriate interest in, fascination, and/or identification with other incidents of mass or targeted violence (e.g., terrorism, rampage violence, school/workplace shootings, mass murders)?

a. Gather information from parents, teachers, and other sources to help address additional questions.

4. Does the individual have (or are they developing) the capacity to carry out an act of targeted violence?

a. Gather information from parents, teachers, and other sources to help address additional questions.

b. *Do you ever pick on younger or smaller children?*

c. *Have you ever thought about or wished you could hurt someone else? If yes, how often do you have those thoughts?*

d. Have you ever purposely hurt someone in the past? If no, how close have you come to hurting someone in the past?

e. Have you ever hurt an animal while playing around? Have you hurt any other animals on purpose?

f. Do you get into fights? In school? Outside of school?

g. Do you feel like you need to “get back” at someone?

h. Do you have access to a weapon? [If positive response, find out what type of weapon, from where, and if they have shown it to anyone.]

i. Have you ever brought a weapon to school in the past? Did you show it to anyone or tell anyone you had it on you?

5. Is the individual experiencing hopelessness, desperation, and/or despair?

a. Gather information from parents, teachers, and other sources to help address additional questions.

b. Do you ever feel sad, upset, or depressed? Do you feel that you're having these feelings without knowing why?

c. Do you get angry often?

d. Do you have any difficulties with sleeping, eating, or concentrating on your work?

e. Do you ever feel lonely? Do you prefer to stay by yourself?

f. Do you blame yourself for things that happen?

g. How do you handle stress? Anger?

h. Have you ever thought of hurting yourself?

i. Have you ever wished or tried to kill yourself?

[If response is positive for either (h) or (i), then ask the following questions]:

Why did you want to (or try to) kill yourself?

What made you decide not to kill yourself?

6. Does the individual have a positive, trusting, sustained relationship with at least one responsible person?

a. What do you typically do after school? Do you have any hobbies or interests?

b. Are you in any clubs or on any teams?

c. Who are your friends at school? How long have you been friends with them? Do you have a best friend? How long have you been best friends? Have you had a problem with any of your friends recently?

d. Have you recently broken up with a significant other? Have you recently ended a good friendship? If yes to either, what happened?

e. Have you been pulling away from your friends or do you feel isolated recently?

f. Tell me about your parents. What do you like to do with them? Are you close with them?

g. Do you think your parents treat you fairly?

h. Who can you go to at home when you need help or are feeling _____?

i. Who can you go to at school when you need help or are feeling _____?

7. Does the individual see violence as an acceptable, desirable – or the only – way to solve a problem?

a. Gather information from parents, teachers, school history, and other sources to help address additional questions.

b. Do you feel it is necessary to get back at someone when they hurt you or do something to you?

c. Are there any steps that you think can be taken by the school, your parents, or yourself to make things better for you?

8. Are the individual's conversation and "story" consistent with his or her actions?

a. Compare student report/interview to information collected from other sources.

9. Are other people concerned about the individual's potential for violence?

a. Document information obtained from interviews (parents, teachers, etc.).

10. What circumstances might affect the likelihood of an escalation to violent behavior?

a. Gather information from parents, teachers, and other sources.

b. What do other people say or do when you make a threat or act aggressively?

c. Can you think of any changes in your life that could make this situation better?

d. Can you think of any changes that could make things get worse?

Concluding Questions/Statements

a. Given where things stand right now, what are you thinking about or planning to do at this point?

b. Identify supports to help de-escalate movement toward violence. Identify responses to particular threat.