

DVUSD's Threat Assessment Process

Each DVUSD school has a trained Threat Assessment Team that uses the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) developed by Dr. Dewey Cornell. These teams—comprised of school administrators, counselors, psychologists, nurses, and our law enforcement officers — work to:

- Assess any reported threat or concerning behavior
- Determine the seriousness of the threat and the appropriate response
- Implement safety protocols when needed
- Collaborate with law enforcement during active investigations

Whether a threat is made verbally, in writing, or on social media, DVUSD investigates every report thoroughly and promptly. Even if a threat is intended as a joke, it is treated with seriousness and may lead to disciplinary and legal consequences.

Report, Don't Repost

Students play a critical role in school safety. We urge all families to help us reinforce this message:

If you see a threat, report it—don't repost it.

Reposting or sharing a threat online spreads fear and confusion

It can interfere with law enforcement and school investigations

Students should instead screenshot the post (if possible) and report it immediately

Encourage your child to share concerns with a trusted adult and never assume that someone else will take action.

How to Report a Concern

DVUSD offers several ways to report school safety threats or suspicious activity:



Report to the Campus administration directly



Safe Schools Hotline: 623-376-3262 (Available 24/7) Anonymous reports accepted



After-Hours Emergency Line: 602-787-3974

Use after hours, on weekends, or holidays for urgent safety, facilities, or transportation matters



Online Reporting:

Submit concerns through the [Safe Schools website](#)

Reports can be made anonymously and are directed to school and district officials



Immediate Threats:

In an emergency, always call 911

Communication During a Safety Event

DVUSD will always communicate with families directly in the event of a threat, emergency, or investigation. We use:

- Phone, text, and email alerts
- Official updates will be posted on the campus website
- School and district social media pages

Please do not rely on unofficial posts or rumors. When in doubt, check our official channels or contact your school administrator directly.

How You Can Help

- Talk with your child about the seriousness of threats—online or in person
- Monitor their use of social media and encourage thoughtful, responsible behavior
- Ensure your contact information and emergency contacts in PowerSchool are current
- Encourage your student to say something if they see something

We thank you for your partnership in keeping DVUSD campuses safe and supportive for all. Together—with proactive reporting, trusted relationships, and open communication, we can foster a culture of safety and care.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): School Threats & Student Safety

Q: How does DVUSD respond when a student makes a threat?

DVUSD investigates every threat—whether made in person, in writing, or on social media—immediately and seriously. Even if the individual claims it was “just a joke,” all threats are treated as potential safety risks.

Each school has a trained Threat Assessment Team that uses the **Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG)** to evaluate the situation.

We also work closely with local law enforcement, including:

- Phoenix Police Department
- Glendale Police Department
- Peoria Police Department
- Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO)

Q: What consequences does a student face for making a threat?

If appropriate, DVUSD will work with law enforcement to recommend criminal charges. In addition, the student may face disciplinary consequences in accordance with the DVUSD Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook.

Q: Why doesn’t the district share details about what happened to the student who made the threat?

Federal privacy laws, including **FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)**, prohibit us from disclosing any specific disciplinary action taken against a student, even when the incident is widely discussed in the community or online.

We understand this can be frustrating for families who want reassurance that action was taken, but please know that we always follow legal requirements and district policy to ensure accountability and student safety.

Q: Can you guarantee that my child is safe at school after a threat?

We want to be clear:

DVUSD would never keep a school open if we believed students or staff were in danger.

Every threat is assessed in partnership with law enforcement. Safety decisions are based on facts, not speculation or social media rumors. If there is ever a credible threat to safety, we will act quickly and communicate directly with families.