

Establishing a Statewide Threat Assessment System for Oregon Schools

A Recommendation from the Oregon
Task Force on School Safety

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Background

- The critical work the Task Force is engaged in is illustrated in the short video titled “Evan.”
- This video was produced by the Sandy Hook Promise, a national non-profit organization founded by several family members whose loved ones were killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School.







This is what prevention looks like.

A Statewide Threat Assessment System

Threat Assessment

- Threat assessment is a proven method of *early intervention* that can help prevent acts of violence in school environments.
- Recommended as a best practice by the US Department of Education, the FBI and the US Secret Service.



Threat Assessment

- Threat assessment is an evidence-based, multidisciplinary approach that focuses on...
 - Early identification
 - Assessment
 - Early Intervention, and
 - Support...for students who present a potential threat to themselves or others.



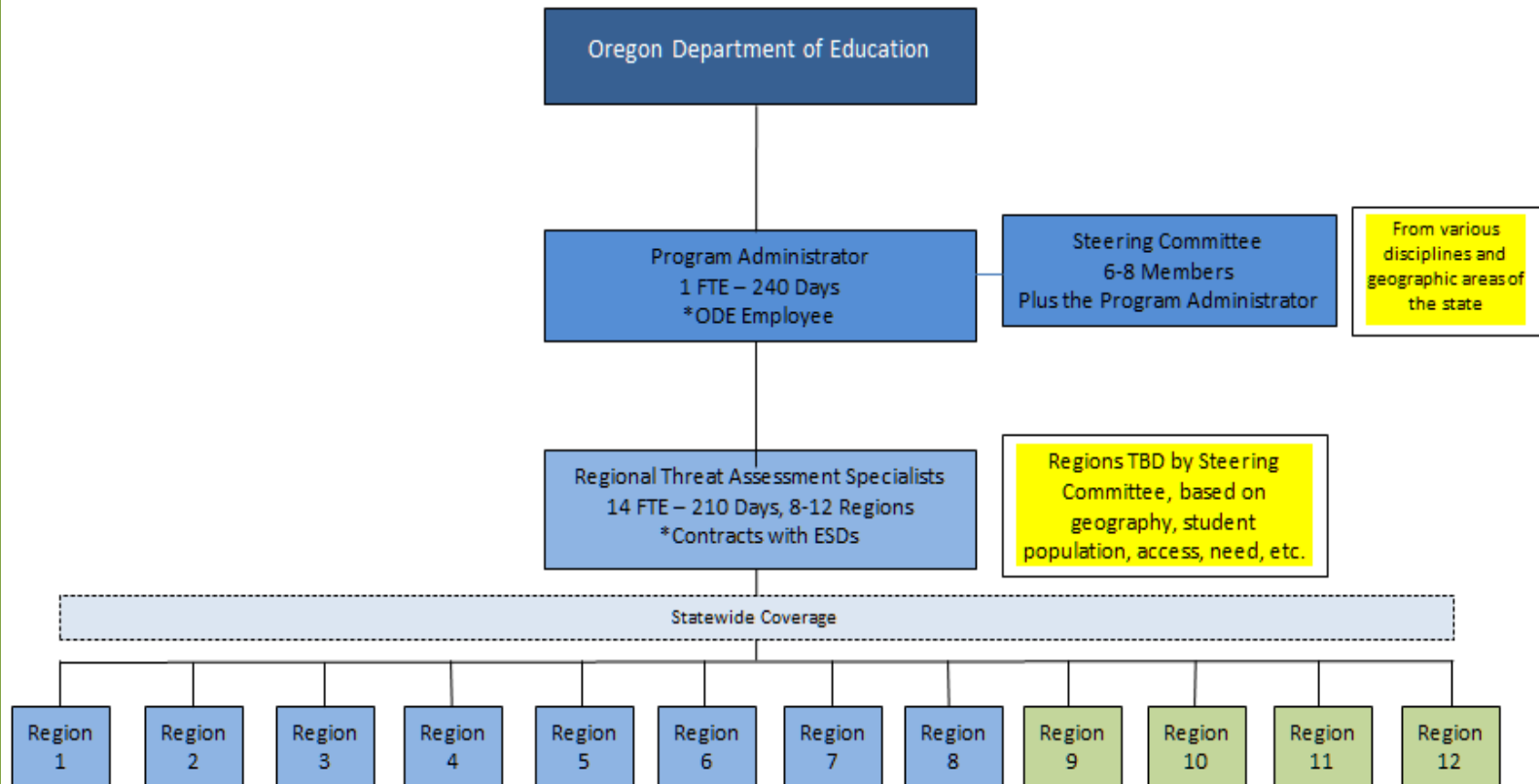
A Statewide System

- The system would establish multiple regions across the state, with one or more Regional Threat Assessment Specialists designated to support each region.
- System staffing would consist of...
 - 1 FTE Program Administrator (ODE)
 - 14 FTE Regional Threat Assessment Specialists



A Statewide System

A Statewide Student Threat Assessment System



A Statewide System

- The role of the Regional Threat Assessment Specialists would be to...
 - Provide training and standardized protocols for staff in the region.
 - Consult with school and community-based threat assessment teams.
 - Deploy multi-disciplinary teams to schools to assess risk and assist in identifying supports and interventions.



A Statewide System

- The role of the Regional Threat Assessment Specialists would be to...
 - Provide supervision strategies for students who are in at-risk situations.
 - Help connect students and families with community-based services and related supports.
 - Ensure program fidelity.





This is what prevention looks like.

Proposed Budget

Proposed Budget

Annual Program Costs	Anticipated Costs
Salaries, including APC and Benefits (8 FTE)	\$1,502,005
Training	\$125,561
Technology	\$24,000
Professional Development	\$81,171
Mileage	\$91,000
Purchased Services	\$50,000
Dues	\$8,000
Supplies	\$30,000
Indirect	\$132,917
Total	\$2,044,654

\$4.1 million for the biennium (estimate)



Threat Assessment as an Investment

- The cost of prevention is steep but the cost of not addressing school-related violence and youth suicide is incredibly expensive.
 - Virginia Tech - \$48 million ↑
 - Columbine - \$50 million ↑
 - Sandy Hook - \$65 million ↑
 - UCC - \$8 million ↑

Disclaimer: Research on the cost of these tragic events is poor at best. The human “cost” is incalculable.



Final Thoughts

- We believe that implementing a statewide threat assessment system...
 - Is an effective prevention strategy to protect students and staff.
 - Is a cost-effective strategy and an effective use of taxpayer dollars.
 - Will address multiple types of threats that exist in our state.
 - Is the right thing to do for Oregon.





This is what prevention looks like.

Thank You!