

SCHOOL SAFETY ASSESSMENT & RELATED SERVICES PRE-SUBMISSION MEETING QUESTIONS

Questions Received as of 11/10/21

- 1) To what extent would you like the District's behavioral threat assessment practices to be assessed? Review of policies, team configurations, review of past cases? Assess alignment with national best practices?

The PCCD assessment criteria address BTA at a high level. Vendors may propose a more detailed review of the District's BTA policies, team configuration, and protocol as compared to PA legal requirements and national best practices, but no review of actual cases / outcomes is necessary.

- 2) Can you elaborate on the requirement to assess the student assistance programs involving mental health resources and programs.

The assessment must meet the tiered Student Assistance, Behavior Health & School Climate Assessment Criteria published by PCCD. These criteria are available online at the PCCD website linked below. Assessors may propose to exceed the published criteria at their discretion if they believe doing so will add to the overall value of the assessment for the District.

<https://www.pccd.pa.gov/schoolsafety/Documents/Assessment%20Criteria/6-Student%20Assistance%20and%20Behavioral%20Health%20Support%20Assessment%20Criteria.docx?Web=0>

- 3) Do you want us to assess mental health capacity within the District? How mental health professionals are integrated into the district's crisis planning processes?

To the extent this exceeds the minimum criteria set forth by PCCD, this may be proposed if the vendor believes it is important and adds to the overall value of the assessment for the District.

- 4) The Safe2Say Tipline implementation – do you want us to assess the effectiveness of the program? Assess school safety stakeholder knowledge and use of the system? Assess the effectiveness of the systems and practices utilized when tips are received:

The PCCD behavioral health criteria contain a minimal assessment of the implementation and promotion of the Safe2Say Something program. An in depth assessment of the NPSD process for handling tips is not required.

- 5) When was the last time the district did a climate survey and will we have access to the results of the survey?

A climate survey was completed in the Spring of 2019 by an outside firm. Those results can be made available as part of this assessment.

- 6) Is the assessment of how the District develops and sustains a positive school climate to be a detailed climate assessment or to gain a high level understanding (through stakeholder interviews) whether the current practices in place are effective?

NPSD is not seeking a detailed climate assessment as part of this project, however the results of prior climate assessments will be made available. PCCD assessment criteria

does contain items relating to a high level understanding of school climate and should be included.

7) For Phase II of the work, will the district require any specific certifications for those participating as evaluators, trainers, safety officers for training and exercise staff?

No.

8) As we work to deliver the services in Phase II, Will the district consider “virtual” discussions based exercises and table top exercises for schools in the district that lead to on-site and functional and full scale exercises?

Yes.

9) While the work to be completed during Phase #1 is designed to drive the larger exercise delivery, some exercises will require significantly more on-site safety officers, controllers, evaluators, than others. Does the district have a sense that the required delivery of the functional and full scale exercise will be one requiring these additional resources (active shooter/mass casualty event)

The District’s desire is for an exercise involving multiple disciplines and stakeholders over the course of one day. Conceptually this would involve a scenario of a significant incident as mentioned. It is reasonable to predict that multiple support staff would be needed on the day of the exercise, however this could likely be supplemented to some extent by public safety or school district personnel who are uninvolved with the exercise scenario itself.