

# POLICY

SOMERSET COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

<b>Date Submitted:</b> April 17, 2001 <b>Date Reviewed:</b> January 17, 2006 February 17, 2009 July 15, 2014	<b>Number:</b> <b>600-35</b>
<b>Subject:</b>  Serious Threats of Violence	<b>Date Approved:</b> May 15, 2001 February 21, 2006, March 17, 2009 August 19, 2014 <b>Date Effective:</b> February 21, 2006, March 17, 2009 August 19, 2014

## 1. PURPOSE

To define serious threats of violence and establish guidelines for dealing with violent threats.

## 2. GUIDELINES

### A. Philosophy

- (1) Somerset County Public Schools supports the belief that schools must be a safe place for students and staff. Serious threats of violence against any person(s), institutions, or the Somerset County Public School community will not be tolerated and will be handled as a school disciplinary infraction. Appropriate law enforcement and/or other agency officials will be contacted when warranted.
- (2) Definition of a serious threat of violence-verbal or nonverbal declaration of intent or determination to inflict significant injury to persons, and/or damage to property with the perceived ability/intention to carry through on the threat.

### B. Procedures

- (1) Once the Superintendent has been advised of the incident, the principal or designee will conduct an investigation including interviewing witnesses.
- (2) Parent/guardian of the student(s) who made the threat and the institution or parent/guardian of the student(s) about whom the threat was made will be notified.
- (3) The principal or designee will have the discretion of determining the seriousness of the threat based on the Tiers of Interventions And Disciplinary Responses Matrix (see Policy # 600-17) If the threat is determined to be of a serious nature , law enforcement officials and/or the Department of Juvenile Services may be notified.
- (4) Depending on the level of the offense, the principal or designee may require a violence prevention screening/assessment prior to readmission to school. Based on the results of the screening/assessment, further counseling or participation in a violence prevention education program maybe required to remain a student.