# Violent and Disruptive Incident Reporting System (VADIR)

## Proposed Amendments to Commissioner's Regulations Section 100.2 (gg)

### September 12, 2016

# Safe Schools Task Force

- Established in 1999; re-established in 2013

- Comprised of approximately 60 experts from across the State including, school district officials; school personnel; parents; education advocates and union representatives; community health, mental health, social services and law enforcement personnel; Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services; Division of State Police; Division of Criminal Justice Services, among others

- Established three Workgroups in 2013 (Student Engagement/School Climate; Data Use and Reporting; Building Security/Infrastructure)

- Presented the 36 recommendations from the Task Force and the 6 recommendations from the Student Forum to the Board of Regents in September 2014 and an update in October 2015

# Safe Schools Task Force Vision

"School environments in New York State will effectively promote and protect the well-being of all students and personnel each day and into the future."

# Safe Schools Task Force Actions

| Date | Activity |
|------|----------|
| January 2013 | Board of Regents re-established the Safe Schools Task Force |
| May 2013 | Kick-off Meeting |
| November 2013 | Full Task Force Meeting with Workgroups Established |
| January – April 2014 | Workgroups met to Develop and Refine Preliminary Recommendations |
| February 2014 | Student Forum Held to Hear the Students' Perspectives on Promoting Safe and Healthy Schools |
| June 2014 | Full Task Force Met to Refine and Prioritize Recommendations |
| September 2014 | Task Force Recommendations Presented to the Board of Regents |
| October 2015 | Presented to the Board of Regents a status update on implementation of each recommendation |

# Safe Schools Task Force Recommendations

- Develop a new set of definitions of incident categories
- Align and combine the reporting mechanisms for VADIR and DASA;
- Develop a single comprehensive model data reporting system;
- Provide greater technical assistance to schools on data collection, use and reporting; and
- Create a statewide School Climate Index to measure school building environments.

# Twenty Categories Currently in Regulation

1) Homicide
2) Forcible Sex Offenses
3) Robbery
4) Assault with Serious Physical Injury
5) Arson
6) Kidnapping
7) Assault with Physical Injury
8) Reckless Endangerment
9) Minor Altercations
10) Intimidation, Harassment, Menacing or Bullying
11) Burglary
12) Criminal Mischief and Other Sex Offenses
13) Larceny and Other Theft Offenses
14) Bomb Threat
15) False Alarm
16) Riot
17) Weapons Possession
18) Drug Use, Possession, or Sale
19) Alcohol Use, Possession, or Sale
20) Other Disruptive Incidents

# Proposed Changes to VADIR

- Reduce the number of categories reported to:

1. Homicide
2. Sexual Offenses
3. Physical Injury
4. Weapons Possession
5. Material Incidents of Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying with no physical injury
6. Bomb Threat
7. False Alarm
8. Use, Possession, or Sale of Drugs
9. Use, Possession, or Sale of Alcohol

# **Summary of Changes**

- Twenty categories reduced to nine categories

- Combine categories similar in nature

- Definitions provide clarity

- Maintain categories SED is mandated to annually report to the federal government :
    - bomb threat
    - false alarm
    - use, possession or sale of drugs
    - use, possession or sale of alcohol

# Next Steps

1.    Adopt the proposed amendment to the Commissioner's Regulations 100.2 (gg) at the December 2016 Board meeting to become effective for the 2017-18 school year;

2.    Revise the electronic application used to collect VADIR and DASA data from schools to reflect the amended regulations; and

3.    Work with the New York State Center for School Safety to expand the availability of technical assistance and professional development to support this work and conduct monitoring and site visits to ensure the accuracy of reporting.