



STUDENT THREAT LEVEL – QUICK REFERENCE

GOAL: Keep everyone safe, de-escalate behavior, and respond consistently and legally.

● LEVEL 1 – EARLY ESCALATION

Examples

- Angry words, whining, yelling. Frustration, pacing, clenched fists. No threat of harm.

STAFF ACTION

- Calm voice, brief redirection. Prompt coping strategy (breathing, count to 10). Stay nearby and supervise.

REMOVAL? ✗ No **DOCUMENT?** ✗ Not required unless repeated

● LEVEL 2 – VERBAL THREAT (NO WEAPON)

Examples

- “I’m going to hit you.” “I’ll hurt you.”

STAFF ACTION

- Separate peers immediately. Escort students to supervised calm space. Use de-escalation language. Allow time to regulate.

FOLLOW-UP

- Teach replacement language. Restore when calm. Notify parents the same day. Document incident.

REMOVAL? ✔ Temporary (regulation only)

● LEVEL 3 – PHYSICAL THREAT / AGGRESSION (NO WEAPON)

Examples

- Attempting to hit, kick, push. Chasing or intimidating peers. Not responding to redirection.

STAFF ACTION

- Ensure peer safety. Remove students from the area. Call for administrative support. **ESI is allowed ONLY if imminent danger and all other methods fail.**

FOLLOW-UP

- Admin notified. Parent contacted immediately. Incident report completed

REMOVAL? ✔ Short-term for safety

● LEVEL 4 – WEAPON THREAT (NO ACTIVE WEAPON PRESENT)

Examples

- “I’m bringing a knife.” Threats involving guns, knives, bombs. Specific or repeated threats.

STAFF ACTION

- Initiate school safety protocol. Remove peers from the area. Notify administration immediately. Maintain constant supervision. Contact parents.

FOLLOW-UP

- Threat assessment. Possible law enforcement involvement. Safety plan updated.

REMOVAL?  Immediate

LEVEL 5 – ACTIVE DANGER / WEAPON PRESENT

Examples

- Weapon visible or possessed. Active attempt to seriously harm.

STAFF ACTION

- Call 911 / law enforcement. Follow emergency procedures. Evacuate or lockdown as directed. Do NOT attempt solo de-escalation.

FOLLOW-UP

- Emergency response. Re-entry meeting required. Revised safety plan

REMOVAL?  Immediate

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- 1. Always prioritize **safety first**. 2. Use the **least restrictive response**. 3. Emergency Safety Intervention (ESI) is **last resort only**. 4. Document Levels **2–5**. 5. Disability-related behavior ≠ automatic suspension
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Aligned With

- Utah Admin Rule R277-608 (ESI). Utah Safe Schools Law (Title 53G). Emery School District Safety & Emergency Policies.