# Superintendent’s Memo #122-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: May 24, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: Upcoming School Safety and Threat Assessment Conferences and Trainings

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services’ Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Education, and others, is offering several upcoming conferences and trainings related to school safety and threat assessment. Registration for each free event is available online at the links provided below.

* The [2019 School Safety Training Forum Pre-Conference: Applied Threat Assessment for K12 School Teams and Practitioners](https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/training-events/2019-school-safety-training-forum-pre-conference-applied-threat-assessment-k12) is July 29, 2019, from 1 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Hampton Convention Center. The half day course is a pre-cursor to the [Virginia School Safety Training Forum](https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/content/2019-school-safety-training-forum) and is a natural next step in school threat assessment team preparedness. This applied course is offered for established school threat assessment team members and those with responsibility for and experience with K-12 threat assessment. It is to attendees.
* The [2019 Virginia School Safety Training Forum](https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/content/2019-school-safety-training-forum) is being held from July 30, 2019, thru August 1, 2019, at the Hampton Convention Center. In its nineteenth year, the Virginia School Safety Training Forum will feature engaging keynote speakers and useful workshops for as many as 1,000 participants in the fields of law enforcement, school security, Pre K-12 administration and counseling, and others with an interest in school safety. During this two and a half day event participants will have the opportunity to hear from local, state, and national experts on a multitude of topics related to school safety, including youth drug abuse trends and prevention, mental health and wellness, legal issues that impact schools, development of a positive school climate, and emergency planning. The conference registration is $125 per person; however, scholarships are available upon request made to the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety contacts listed below.
* The [K-12 Threat Assessment Webinar](https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/training-events/k-12-threat-assessment-webinar) is being offered online in two, one hour-long sessions August 26, 2019. Session one is at 10 a.m. and will focus on an overview of the threat assessment process and best practices in Virginia. Session two will outline the process to follow once a threat is identified. Participants may elect to participate in one or both of the one-hour sessions*.*
* The [2019 National Threat Assessment Conference for Educational Institutions](https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/content/2019-national-threat-assessment-conference-educational-institutions) will be held at the Richmond Marriott November 4, 2019, thru November 6, 2019. In light of past tragedies throughout the nation, there has been an increase by federal and state legislatures, school divisions, law enforcement, and other practitioners to explore practices that have the potential to prevent targeted violence. With a decade of implementing threat assessment teams in institutions of higher education and K-12 public schools, we have had the opportunity to learn what works best based on research, best practice, and also from what does not work. This two and a half day conference will address threat assessment from a prevention and intervention focus with an emphasis on the latest research, legal requirements, and success in implementation. Registration for this conference is also free of charge.

Registration is now open for each of these events and each division is encouraged to enroll at least one representative to each event. Questions regarding these events may be directed to any of the following names listed below:

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