

Getting Buy-In for Anonymous Reporting Systems

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An Anonymous Reporting System (ARS) is a technology-based prevention strategy that helps students identify the signs of a potential threat and know how to confidentially report their concerns to school leaders. In this [on-demand webinar](#), participants will learn more about the history and philosophy of ARS, its essential components, and how to effectively adopt and maintain ARS in their schools.

Learning Outcomes

- » Define the practice of Anonymous Reporting Systems in schools.
- » Describe key considerations related to implementing Anonymous Reporting Systems.
- » Recognize the benefits of Anonymous Reporting Systems for schools and their stakeholders.

Key Takeaways

- ✓ Students often have knowledge or awareness of situations that adults do not. Creating a way to report anonymously removes many of the perceived barriers (such as betraying one's friends) to sharing this sensitive information.
- ✓ Education on recognizing warning signs and the importance of reporting early is a vital component of the success of any ARS.
- ✓ An effective and responsible ARS model features redundancy and facilitates collaboration between the response team and external stakeholders.
- ✓ An ARS needs 24/7/365 monitoring and vetting in order to be successful, as tips often come in based on social media observed during student free time outside of school.
- ✓ The technology that powers an ARS should be robust and security-focused with data tracking and the ability to share information quickly.
- ✓ To have long-term success, an ARS should have regular and ongoing engagement efforts and training on utilizing the system.

Additional Resources

[Helpful Hints for School Emergency Management](#) - A document on how to engage students in the emergency management process.

[SchoolSafety.gov](#) - A collection of resources and a starting place for thinking about reporting systems in schools.

Questions for Discussion

- » What is the purpose of the Anonymous Reporting System at your school? Who should be involved on the response team to accomplish that purpose?
- » How could you motivate students and community members to utilize an Anonymous Reporting System?

[NC2S.org](#) | schoolsafety@umich.edu | 734-647-8295
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