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 collaborators.

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 collaborators.

☑ 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?

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