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## **Media Release**

## **BRSD Reaffirms Partnership to Support Student Safety**

April 17, 2025

Battle River School Division (BRSD) proudly hosted a partnership meeting this week with representatives from the RCMP, Alberta Health Services (AHS), BRSD and Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS) to formally reaffirm our shared commitment to student safety and well-being. At the meeting, all partners signed an updated Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Protocol, reinforcing the collaborative approach to early intervention and support in situations where there may be a risk of violence.



The updated protocol strengthens the longstanding partnership among community agencies and school divisions, recognizing that effective threat assessment requires open communication, mutual trust, and a coordinated response.

"We know that keeping students safe takes a team effort," said Rhae-Ann Holoien, Superintendent of Battle River School Division. "This partnership ensures that when there is a concern, we're able to respond quickly, thoughtfully, and in a way that supports students while also protecting the wellbeing of our school communities."

Paul Corrigan, Superintendent of Elk Island Catholic Schools, echoed the importance of partnership: "Together, we are better able to support students' needs. This protocol demonstrates our shared commitment to early intervention, and to providing a safe and caring environment for every student."

The VTRA Protocol is built on the principle that timely and collaborative action is key to to proactively intervene and address potential threats to self or others. Through strong inter-agency cooperation, the goal is always to help students in crisis access the support they need while maintaining safety for all.

This renewed commitment reflects each partner's dedication to fostering safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environments.

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**Battle River School Division** 

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