

# Recognizing and Supporting Students of Concern

## Who Could Be a Student of Concern?



A student who is exhibiting the following behaviors of concern which are impacting their well-being and/or the well-being of others.

## NC SBI's Behavioral Threat Assessment (BeTA) Unit

- ▶ Decline in school performance
- ▶ Increased absenteeism/tardiness
- ▶ Withdrawal from friends/social activities
- ▶ Sudden change in behavior or appearance
- ▶ Drug or alcohol use
- ▶ Bullying/harassing others
- ▶ Threatening or engaging in violence
- ▶ Bringing weapons to school
- ▶ Discloses thoughts of violence to others through writing, art, online activities or statements to others

- ▶ Developed by the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to take a proactive approach to prevent violence in our communities
- ▶ Staffed by law enforcement officers, intelligence analysts and mental health professionals
- ▶ Mission is to identify, investigate, evaluate and manage person(s) of concern within North Carolina who are recognized as having motive and means to develop, or act on an opportunity to commit a targeted attack
- ▶ Compliments work being done by your school threat assessment team
- ▶ Assessment will provide recommendations for reducing a student's risk factors for committing a violent act
- ▶ Goal is to enable the student to remain positively engaged in the learning environment

## Privacy Concerns

The **Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** permits communication about a student of concern in connection with a health and safety emergency. Observations of a student's conduct or statements made by a student are not FERPA protected. Such information should be shared with appropriate consideration for student privacy. **If you feel there is an imminent risk of danger, please call 911 or your local law enforcement agency. To make a BeTA Unit referral, contact 1-888-624-7222 or [ncbeta@ncsbi.gov](mailto:ncbeta@ncsbi.gov).**