

KENTUCKY CENTER

FOR

SCHOOL
SAFETY

THREAT ASSESSMENT
TRAINING

KENTUCKY CENTER FOR SCHOOL SAFETY





Special Announcement from the Kentucky Center for School Safety

School Safety Coordinators have clearly communicated to us that there is confusion at the school level pertaining to establishing a threat assessment team and efficiently assessing a threat. Additionally, they have asked for specific steps needed to address a threat. Further, they amplify a genuine need for personalized training coupled with proficient Kentucky resource persons upon whom they can call for immediate guidance and assistance.

In direct response, KCSS has heard their concerns and are ready to respond to our fellow educators across the state.

What have we done?

KCSS has contracted with nationally renowned school safety and threat assessment experts Bill Modzeleski and Marisa Randazzo to "train a cadre of trainers" who specialize in threat assessment.

Bill and Marisa were at ground zero in developing the threat assessment program in the United States. As you will read in their biographies on the next page, they were joined by colleagues in 2002 from the U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Department of Education in researching commonalities of 37 school shooters in their publication of the "Safe Schools Initiative". From that study, a school-based threat assessment program was created. Since that time, other groups have marketed their iteration of how to conduct threat assessments at the school level.

Because of their vast experience and knowledge in this arena, they are extremely credible and widely respected among educators nationwide. Simply put, we wanted to be trained by the best.

What services will KCSS provide?

Today, KCSS is proud to announce that we are prepared to assist school districts and, upon request, individual schools wishing to receive training on the development and function of a school-based threat assessment team. The KCSS Threat Assessment Team Cadre consists of three teams of trainers. Each team consists of successful and veteran school administrators (elementary, middle and high school) and current practicing school-based mental health care providers.

How will the training be conducted?

All trainings will be conducted via Zoom due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Training will be customized to fit the school district's or individual school's schedule (day or evening you determine what's best for your school or district). Three EILA credit hours will be awarded upon completion of this training.

What support is available following the initial training?

After completion of the training, recipients will be given personal contact information for their trainers should they have follow-up questions or need advice when conducting threat assessments. Same day support will be provided as requested. As always, KCSS services are cost-free and immediate.

To schedule this service, please contact:

Jon Akers
KCSS Executive Director
Email: jon.akers@eku.edu
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Dan Orman
KCSS Training Coordinator
Email: dan.orman@ksba.org
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School-Based Threat Assessment Team trainers

Who trained the KCSS Threat Assessment Team cadre of trainers?



William Modzeleski

William "Bill" Modzeleski is a Senior Threat Manager with SIGMA Threat Management Associates and a nationally recognized leader in the area of school safety and emergency management. Mr. Modzeleski is a former Associate Assistant Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools. During his tenure at the Department of Education Mr.

Modzeleski was instrumental in the development and implementation of several programs related to emergency management and violence prevention. These programs included: Safe Schools/Healthy Students Program (a multi-agency effort designed to approach violence prevention from a comprehensive perspective); School Emergency Response to Violence (a program designed to bring assistance to schools immediately after a crisis that has affected teaching and learning); and the REMS program (a program designed to assist schools improve their emergency management plans). Mr. Modzeleski also played leadership role in numerous studies related to school shootings, radicalization and violent extremism. Mr. Modzeleski served as co-author with staff from U.S. Secret Service on the Safe School Initiative, and co-author with staff from Secret Service and FBI on study on Targeted Attacks at Institutions of Higher Education. Mr. Modzeleski assisted the Homeland Security Studies and Analysis Institute in the design of studies related to terrorist incidents involving education targets, emergency management planning in international schools, recruitment and radicalization by international terrorist groups, and a review of school-aged youth involved in terrorist activities. Mr. Modzeleski was also led ED's efforts to assist schools after events disrupted teaching. These events ranged from Columbine to Virginia Tech, and from Hurricanes Rita and Katrina to the tornado in Joplin MO. Mr. Modzeleski also led team that worked closely with staff from the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) on efforts to stem the spread of the H1N1 epidemic. Mr. Modzeleski is a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Homeland Security Studies and Analysis Institute. Prior to his federal service he served in the U.S. Army serving in the U.S. and Vietnam. He holds a BA from the University of Bridgeport (where he recently was named a distinguished alum), and a MA from C.W. Post College.



Dr. Marisa Randazzo

Dr. Marisa Randazzo is Chief Executive Officer and founder of SIGMA Threat Management Associates LLC. In this capacity she oversees all of SIGMA's threat assessment training and consulting operations as well as strategic initiatives, providing daily management and visionary leadership to all of SIGMA's work.

She is recognized internationally as an expert on threat assessment & threat management, school shootings and other types of targeted violence, and protective intelligence investigations. She also serves as Director of Threat Assessment for Georgetown University. Previously, Dr. Randazzo served for ten years with the U.S. Secret Service, most recently as the agency's Chief Research Psychologist. Among her various responsibilities, she co-directed the Safe School Initiative, the landmark federal study of school shootings that was conducted jointly by the U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Randazzo is an accomplished presenter and instructor on threat assessment investigations, having trained over 15,000 professionals in law enforcement, management, administration, mental health, and the intelligence community throughout the United States, Canada, and the European Union. Her research is used in the federal, state, and local law enforcement communities and has been credited in the media with preventing planned attacks. She is co-author of two leading books on threat assessment: *The Handbook for Campus Threat Assessment and Management Teams* (2008) and *Implementing Behavioral Threat Assessment on Campus: A Virginia Tech Demonstration Project* (2009); both books are referenced as best-practice resources in several federal guides on emergency planning and in an American National Standard. Dr. Randazzo has testified before Congress and has been interviewed by major television, radio, and print news outlets, including 60 Minutes, Good Morning America, Nightline, Today, the Early Show, 48 Hours, Dateline NBC, MSNBC, the New York Times, Esquire Magazine, Redbook Magazine, and National Public Radio. She currently serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Threat Assessment & Management*. She has also published under her maiden name, Marisa Reddy. Dr. Randazzo received her Ph.D. and Master's degree from Princeton University in Social Psychology, and a B.A. in Psychology and Religion from Williams College. Dr. Randazzo was awarded the Williams College Bicentennial Medal for her work in preventing violence and was recently honored as a Distinguished Alumna of the Spence School. Dr. Randazzo has served as a subject matter expert in testimony before Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy's Sandy Hook Advisory Commission, as a reviewer for the White House's federal Guides to High Quality Emergency Plans (for schools, for higher education institutions, and for houses of worship), and as a member of the American Psychological Association's Expert Panel on Preventing Gun Violence.

Kentucky Center for School Safety School-Based Threat Assessment Team Trainers: KCSS Threat Assessment Team Training Cadre:



Jill Canuel

Jill Canuel is a licensed clinical social worker. She currently serves as a district mental health consultant for Oldham County Schools where she is an active member of threat assessment teams and district threat assessment trainings. She served as a certified school social worker and school therapist at the district alternative school for 15 years. Prior to her work in the district she began her career working with at-risk children and adolescents in community-based mental health services. Jill has worked with KCSS since 2018.



Wesley Cornett

Wesley Cornett was in education 28 years before retiring full time in 2018. He began his career at Williamsburg High School in 1990 after graduating from Cumberland College. Wes taught and coached football for eight years. He served 20 years as a high school and district administrator in Lincoln County, Somerset Independent and Danville Independent schools. Wes worked for the Kentucky Association of School Administrators (KASA) as the Director of Professional Services from July 2018 to June 2020. As an interesting side note, he also worked for Speedway Motorsports Incorporated for 13 years doing armed security for NASCAR races.



Pat Downey

Pat's educational pursuit led her to a Rank I in Administrative Leadership and Secondary Education. She began her career as a high school teacher in psychology and language arts. She helped write a grant for an alternative school, shared between two districts, and left her high school position to teach there. A year later, she became the school's principal. Later, she served as principal of a K-8 school then moved to a larger K-4 facility, finally ending up at the Kentucky Department of Education. There, Pat focused on effective schools research, administrative leadership, and assisting low performing schools. Retiring in 2007, Pat re-emerged to work in a 6th grade center as its interim principal and worked with administrators as a coach and mentor. Additionally in 2007, she became a consultant for the Kentucky Center for School Safety (KCSS) leading teams into schools for safety assessments.



Renée Grady

Renée Grady is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and currently works as a Mental Health Consultant for Oldham County Schools. Prior to working for Oldham County she worked as a community based therapist. Renée worked for Seven Counties Rural division for 10 years serving a wide range of ages (2 through 72) and mental health issues. Having worked closely with Oldham County Schools' mental health consultants, Renée jumped at the opportunity to take on a new challenge in that role. Renée enjoys working with school personnel, students and parents to address concepts ranging from suicide prevention training to direct involvement with threat assessment teams and addressing the mental health needs of trauma-involved students.



Yvette Thompson

Yvette Thompson is a guidance counselor at Bryan Station High School in Lexington, Kentucky. Yvette started her career as a social studies teacher at Henry Clay High School. In 2001, she returned to her alma mater, Bryan Station, as a school counselor to give back and serve the students from her former community, in particular young women of color. Yvette provides all students an outlet for voicing concerns in a safe and non-judgmental environment. She has been instrumental in assisting school administrators and teachers with evaluating student behavioral and academic problems and facilitating crisis intervention and prevention initiatives. Yvette utilizes her vast skills to lead school related events and programs and has a passion for directing students towards opportunities for career and college. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky in education and a Master's degree from Eastern Kentucky University in counseling. She lives in Lexington, KY with her husband Myron and two daughters.



Linda Tyree

Linda Tyree served Kentucky students for over thirty years in the Butler County School District. As the President of the Kentucky School Counselor Association, Linda has had the opportunity to testify at both the federal and state level, testifying before the Federal Commission on School Safety and in support of both Senate Bill 1 (The School Safety and Resiliency Act) and Senate Bill 8, which increased mental health supports for Kentucky students. She also helps coordinate the Green River Regional Educational Cooperative's Crisis Recovery Team, most notably taking part in the Marshall County response. She is excited to be a part of the Kentucky Center for School Safety Threat Assessment Team training cadre and looks forward to working with districts and schools.



Jonathan Wosoba

A 1989 graduate of Western Kentucky University, Jonathan Wosoba's career in education includes successful tenures as middle school teacher, assistant principal and principal in Jefferson and Oldham counties. At each stage of his career, Jonathan has utilized the power of developing close, personal relationships with students, parents and colleagues to create safe, positive environments for learning. While principal of Buckner Alternative High School, Jonathan led a cutting-edge team of highly skilled educators to become one of the most respected and versatile alternative school programs in Kentucky. As Director of Student Services for Oldham County Schools, his leadership expanded to all 18 schools in the district. His oversight included school safety, school support, police/court liaison, mental health and a host of other district responsibilities.

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