

SCHOOL SAFETY ASSESSMENT & RELATED SERVICES PRE-SUBMISSION MEETING QUESTIONS

Questions Received as of 11/4/21

- 1) Has the District had a School Safety Assessment or related services in the past? If so, when and who was the vendor?
Yes, but not district-wide. North Penn High School was evaluated by the Pennsylvania State Police Risk & Vulnerability Assessment Team in 2010, and Penndale Middle School was evaluated by SafePlans in 2010.
- 2) Does the District currently have internal practices for safety assessments or threat documentation? Is this something the District will share if it exists before or at the time of work?
Yes. Details will be provided as part of the assessment process.
- 3) Does the District plan on awarding multiple vendors?
It is not the District's intent to award to multiple vendors, however the District does reserve that right should doing so result in the best outcome.
- 4) May a vendor submit a proposal for only one phase?
Yes. Proposals for the entirety of just one phase will be considered (Phase 1 or Phase 2.) Proposals for a partial phase will not be considered.
- 5) In addition to the requested services, is the District willing to accept on-site staff training or keynote speaker events as a supplemental part of the final assessment delivery?
The District will consider these items if offered, however they should be proposed and priced separately from the services requested in the specifications.
- 6) Will the District consider a software vendor with a cloud-based safety assessment tool if the vendor were to partner with a services firm for the actual assessments?
Yes, the District will consider such a model if the services meet the RFP specifications.
- 7) Does the District have a multi-year integrated preparedness plan?
No
- 8) What existing plans, policies, and procedures will be provided to the vendor?
The District will provide all existing plans/policies/procedures necessary for the vendor to conduct a thorough assessment. The onus will be on the vendor to flush out the existence of these items as part of the assessment process.
- 9) Are there any existing threat and hazard identification and risk assessments (THIRAs) besides what will come out of Phase 1, that the vendor can review?
No
- 10) What, if any, past exercise or real-world AAR/IPs will be provided to the vendor?

The District has some internal AAR documentation from two real emergencies occurring within the last five years. This can be shared with the vendor.

11) Are there any pre-existing grant or cooperative agreement requirements that affect this project?

No

12) Relating to the Full Scale Exercise in Phase 2:

a) Type of emergency: Does this include natural hazards (flood near or on school grounds), technological hazards (chemical spill), human-caused hazards (behavioral health, disruption, intruder, active shooter)?

Yes. The expectation is that the specific emergency, scenario details, and scope are arrived at collaboratively through a process led by the vendor.

b) Will the county's municipal law enforcement agencies, volunteer/combination fire companies, combination ambulance association, employees of the school district (teachers, administrators, support personnel) be participating in this exercise?

Yes. The desire is to have as many relevant stakeholders involved as reasonably possible, including those mentioned above.

c) Is this meant to be a single-day or multi-day exercise?

Single day.

d) Will this exercise take place in-person or virtually? Or have a combination of both?

In person.

e) On-site security assessments will be conducted on 20 facilities during Phase 1 of this project. Does the District expect one FSE for each location? Or could the exercise be tailored to elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, recovery school, and other miscellaneous facilities (administrative, warehouse, transport)? What are the expected parameters?

The expectation is for one FSE. It is understood that the final FSE will not include all of the facilities or personnel assessed in phase 1, however recommendations for training and/or smaller scale exercises should be applicable to as many facilities as possible.

f) What known objectives does the District need to exercise? Are there any known objectives that the District needs to exercise?

This answer would be developed as a result of phase 1.

g) What are the District's expectations for scenario events?

The specific emergency, scenario details, and scope should be arrived at collaboratively through a process led by the vendor.

h) What plans, policies, and procedures will be tested during this exercise?

The specific emergency, scenario details, and scope should be arrived at collaboratively through a process led by the vendor.

13) Mental Health Resources - Just looking at policy and practices or at district capacity?

The goal is not to assess the quality of mental health services themselves, rather to determine if the existence, organization, and accessibility of resources is adequate for an organization of NPSD's size as compared to leading/recommended/required practices.

14) Safe to Say programmatic assessment?

Yes. An assessment of the implementation of the program at the District as compared to its intended purpose should be included.

15) School climate - gap analysis?

The assessment may be limited to North Penn's recognition of school climate as a component of a holistic school safety program and the existence of factors contributing to or detracting from a positive school climate. Vendors are not asked to assess or measure school climate itself as part of this project.

16) Behavioral Threat Assessment - Would the district consider this as part of the assessment?

Yes. Behavioral threat assessment is a requirement of State law in Pennsylvania. NPSD behavioral threat assessment policy/process should be assessed as compared to leading/required practices.