

## Students

### Suicide Prevention

The Governing Board recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among youth and that school personnel who regularly interact with students are often in a position to recognize the warning signs of suicide and to offer appropriate referral and/or assistance. In an effort to reduce suicidal behavior and its impact on students and families, the Superintendent or designee shall develop measures and strategies for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

In developing measures and strategies for use by the district, the Superintendent or designee may consult with school health professionals, school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, administrators, other staff, parents/guardians, students, suicide prevention experts, local health agencies, mental health professionals, and community organizations.

Such measures and strategies shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Staff development on suicide awareness and prevention for teachers, school counselors, and other district employees who interact with students
2. Methods for promoting a positive school climate that enhances students' feelings of connectedness with the school and that is characterized by caring staff and harmonious interrelationships among students
3. Encouragement for students to notify appropriate school personnel or other adults when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions
4. Crisis intervention procedures for addressing suicide threats or attempts
5. Counseling and other postvention strategies for helping students, staff, and others cope in the aftermath of a student's suicide

As appropriate, these measures and strategies shall specifically address the needs of students who are at high risk of suicide, including, but not limited to, students who are bereaved by suicide; students with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders; students who are experiencing homelessness or who are in out-of-home settings such as foster care; and students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth. (Education Code 215)

The Board shall review, and update as necessary, this policy at least every five years. (Education Code 215)

Students

Suicide Prevention (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

215	Student suicide prevention policies
215.5	Suicide prevention hotline contact information on student identification cards
216	Suicide prevention online training programs
32280-32289	Comprehensive safety plan
49060-49079	Student records
49602	Confidentiality of student information
49604	Suicide prevention training for school counselors

GOVERNMENT CODE

810-996.6	Government Claims Act
-----------	-----------------------

PENAL CODE

11164-11174.3	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act
---------------	---------------------------------------

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

5698	Emotionally disturbed youth; legislative intent
5850-5883	Children's Mental Health Services Act

COURT DECISIONS

Corales v. Bennett (Ontario-Montclair School District), (2009) 567 F.3d 554

Lompoc Unified School District

Adopted: (5/10 6/17) 01/20