

SUICIDE AWARENESS, PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND POSTVENTION CRISIS RESPONSE

The Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education (the Board) recognizes suicide is a major cause of death among young people. Therefore, the Board directs the Superintendent to initiate a continuum of awareness and support in Colorado Springs School District 11 (the District) to the extent practical as outlined below.

The Superintendent shall establish a continuing cooperative relationship with local mental health agencies, and other partners. This will supplement District resources and provide additional expertise to carry out such supports.

School staff, students and families/caregivers/ guardians can also contribute significantly toward the prevention, intervention, and postvention of child and adolescent death by suicide. Therefore, the Superintendent shall consider each stakeholder group of the school community when developing the District's strategies.

The Board directs that the supports and strategies developed include information that shall help school staff, families/caregivers/guardians and students to:

1. Understand the developmental stages of childhood and adolescence.
2. Understand the social, environmental, and mental health factors that can be attributed to increased risk for suicidal ideation, attempts and death by suicide.
3. Recognize the early warning signs of suicide.
4. Learn how to appropriately respond in and to a crisis.
5. Identify community resources where students and families/caregivers/guardians can get help.
6. Address the impact of death by suicide

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop procedures to guide staff in providing an appropriate continuum of awareness, support and strategies to address these challenges on behalf of students.

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. § 22-60.5-110(3)(b)
C.R.S. § 13-21-108(1)
C.R.S. § 22-32-110(1)(bb)
C.R.S. § 24-10-106.5

CROSS REF: IHAM, Comprehensive Health Education
KDE, Crisis Management

Adopted April, 2009
Revised December 8, 2021