

Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention

The Lakeland Joint School District has a responsibility to notify a student's parent/guardian regarding any known changes in the student's mental, physical, or emotional health or well-being.

This policy addresses appropriate District responses to suicidal students taking place in the school, on school property, at school-sponsored events where staff are present, on school buses or vehicles, and at bus stops, or after any death of a member within the school community. Neither a teacher nor a school district shall have a duty to warn of the suicidal tendencies if there is no direct evidence of suicidal tendencies (Idaho Code § 33-512B).

PREVENTION

1. **Suicide Prevention Coordinator**The coordinator of the Crisis Team shall appoint a suicide prevention coordinator. The coordinator will be responsible for planning and coordinating implementation of district procedures related to student suicide prevention.
2. **Staff Professional Development**
All staff shall receive annual professional development on risk factors, warning signs, protective factors, response procedures, referrals, postvention, resources about youth suicide prevention, and information about groups of students at elevated risk for suicide.

INTERVENTION

1. **Screen and Referral**
When a student is identified by a staff member as potentially suicidal, the staff member shall notify the school principal. The school principal shall notify the school counselor and either the principal or school counselor shall contact the student's parent or guardian immediately. The principal or school counselor shall remain with the student until the student's parent or guardian arrives, and the school counselor may conduct a suicide risk assessment at this time. The school counselor will inform the district suicide prevention coordinator and all actions shall be documented.
2. **In-School Suicide Attempts**
In the case of an in-school suicide attempt, a staff member shall call 911, and the student's parent or guardian shall be notified immediately. The student shall be supervised and first aid will be rendered until first responders arrive. Other students shall be moved out of the immediate area. The staff member will inform the school suicide prevention coordinator and all actions shall be documented

3. Out-of-School Suicide Attempts If a staff member becomes aware of a suicide attempt by a student in an out-of-school location, the staff member shall call 911. The staff member will inform the school suicide prevention coordinator and all actions shall be documented.

4. Re-entry Procedure

For students returning to school after a suicide attempt, the parent may coordinate with the suicide prevention coordinator the most effective re-entry plan for the student. The suicide prevention coordinator shall communicate with the principal regarding the student's re-entry plan.

POSTVENTION

1. Development and Implementation of a Care Plan

When the district has been informed of a student death, communication from the district to the parents or guardians shall be respectful and remain as non-invasive or intrusive as possible. The district shall support the student and staff community by providing resources.

2. External Communication

Any external communication shall come from the Superintendent.

Additional Cross Reference:

District-approved Suicide Prevention and Risk Assessment Protocol, adopted August 2018

Legal References:

IC § 32-1010
IC § 33-136
IC § 33-512B
IC § 33-6001

Idaho Parental Rights Act
Suicide Prevention in Schools
Suicidal Tendencies — Duty to Warn
Parental Rights in Education

IDAPA 08.02.02.112
IDAPA 08.02.03.160

Suicide Prevention in Schools
Safe Environment and Discipline

Policy History:

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