

## HOLBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### **SUICIDE RISK PROTOCOL**

Should any staff member become aware of a student who has attempted or intends suicide, the following policy should be followed.

#### **Communication of Risk**

Such information must be reported to a guidance or adjustment counselor immediately.

#### **The Safety of the Student is Primary**

If there has been a suicide attempt, a staff member should remain with the student and 911 should be called immediately. As soon as possible, the principal will be notified and the school nurse will determine the emergency contacts that need to be made.

#### **Staff Members Should Not Make Decisions in Isolation**

If a staff member becomes aware of or suspects a student may be at risk, the counseling office should be notified immediately.

#### **Assessment of Risk**

The counseling team will meet with the student to assess risk.

If a student is at risk for suicide, the student must remain with a staff member at all times. The principal and the school nurse will be notified immediately. If a parent is available for immediate pick up at school, the student will be released to the parent to transfer to a local emergency facility for a psychological evaluation. If the parent/guardian cannot be reached in a timely manner or cannot come to school, the student will be transported by ambulance. If at any point in time the student becomes uncooperative or appears to be a bolt-risk, the local police and fire department will be contacted.

If the student is mildly at risk, the counselor will inform the parent/guardian as soon as possible that the school considers there is a risk of suicide, The counselor will invite them to discuss the situation with the counselor or some other member of the team. The student may leave after the assessment.

### **Readmittance to School**

After an evaluation, a note from the treating practitioner indicating that the student is safe to return to school will be required.

### **Counseling Team**

In the event of a suicide attempt or report of intent of suicide, the team will work with the building principal to assist him/her as outlined in the “Aftermath of a Suicide.”

If a student or staff member has committed suicide, the team will work with the building principal to assist him/her as outlined in the protocol “Aftermath of a Suicide.”

The team will include the following members:

1. Counseling Staff – District Wide
2. School Nurse
3. School Administration

REF: School Crisis Staff Manual

CROSS REF: JLDBAA Aftermath of a Suicide

Adopted: April 3, 2002

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