



**ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS  
REGARDING  
SUICIDE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION**

**Management of Suicidal Risk**

The school cannot be expected to thoroughly evaluate and eliminate suicidal risk. Nevertheless, the Regional School District 10 Board of Education (the "Board") is committed to respond in a supportive manner, both aggressively and immediately, to a student who has attempted, has threatened, or communicates that they are considering attempting suicide. The following procedures shall be implemented toward this end.

**Management of Suicidal Risk**

- I. Any staff member who becomes aware of a student who may be at risk of suicide must immediately notify the building principal or designee. This must be done even if the student has confided in the staff person and asked that their communication be kept confidential. The principal or designee will then notify an appropriate Student Services Personnel and/or [Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)].
- II. The designated staff member shall interview the student, consider available background information and determine whether, in the designated staff member's judgement, the student is "at-risk" or in "imminent danger."
- III. If the student is assessed to be "at-risk":
  - A. The Regional School District 10 designated staff member shall notify the student's parent/guardian and request a meeting with them as soon as possible, preferably that same day.
  - B. When the parent/guardian arrives at school, the designated staff member shall meet with him/her to discuss:
    1. the seriousness of the situation.
    2. the need for an immediate suicide risk evaluation at a medical or mental health facility, or other appropriate evaluation(s);
    3. the need for continued monitoring of the student at home if the student is released following the evaluation;
    4. referral to appropriate professional services outside the school system; and

5. a request for the parent/guardian to sign a release of information form permitting communication between the school and the facility to which the student will be taken, the student's therapist and other appropriate individuals.
- C. The designated staff member shall document in writing the course of events, including what transpired at the meeting, and the outcome.
  - D. The Regional School designated staff member may notify other staff, as necessary to promote the safety of the student and others.
  - E. The designated staff member may refer the student to the school's Child Study Team, Mental Health Team, Crisis Intervention Team, Student Assistance Team, Planning Placement Team or other staff as appropriate for further consultation and planning.
  - F. The designated staff member or the team shall monitor the student's progress and shall consult as necessary with family, outside professionals and school staff as permitted by state and federal law.
- IV. If the student is assessed to be "in imminent danger":
- A. The designated staff member shall ensure that the student is not left alone.
  - B. The designated staff member shall notify the parent/guardian and request that the student be picked up at school and taken to a medical or mental health professional for thorough suicidal risk evaluation.
  - C. When the parent/guardian arrives at school, the designated staff member shall meet with parent/guardian to discuss:
    1. the seriousness of the situation.
    2. the need for an immediate suicide risk evaluation at a medical or mental health facility, or other appropriate evaluation(s);
    3. the need for continued monitoring of the student at home if the student is released following the evaluation.
    4. referral to appropriate professional services outside the school system; and
    5. a request for the parent/guardian to sign a release of information form permitting communication between the school and the facility to which the student will be taken, the student's therapist and other appropriate individuals.

In addition, the designated staff member:

- a. shall document in writing the course of events, including what transpired at the meeting, and the outcome.
  - b. shall inform the principal of the course of events and the outcome.
  - c. The Regional School District 10 staff member may notify other staff, as necessary to promote the safety of the student and others, if permitted by state and federal law.
  - d. shall refer the student to the school's Child Study Team, Mental Health Team, Crisis Intervention Team, Student Assistance Team, Planning and Placement Team or other staff as appropriate for further consultation and planning.
- D. In instances where the parent/guardian is unable to come to school after being notified that their child has been identified as “in imminent danger” and the student must be picked up from school and taken for a thorough suicidal risk evaluation, the Designated Staff Member shall notify the parent/guardian of the District’s intent to and arrange transport of the student to an appropriate evaluation/treatment site by means of emergency vehicle (*e.g.*, ambulance or police cruiser). The Designated Staff Member shall arrange for an emergency vehicle to transport the student to the hospital or an appropriate mental health facility; shall inform hospital/facility staff of known information pertaining to the situation; and shall plan follow-up in relation to hospital staff or mental health facility staff decisions as to how to proceed.

In addition, the designated staff member:

- 1. shall provide, over the telephone, information as to available resources outside and within the school system and shall plan follow-up contacts.
- 2. may notify police if the student poses a threat to the safety of self or others, or as dictated by other circumstances.
- 3. shall document in writing the course of events and the outcome.
- 4. shall inform the principal of the course of events and the outcome.
- 5. may notify other staff, as necessary to promote the safety of the student and others; and
- 6. shall refer the student to the school's Child Study Team, Mental Health Team, Crisis Intervention Team, Student Assistance Team, Planning and Placement Team or other staff as appropriate for further consultation and planning.

- E. If the parent/guardian does not agree with the school's determination that the student is in imminent danger or for any other reason refuses to take action:

The designated staff member shall meet with the building principal to develop an immediate plan focused on protection of the student.

The designated staff member shall document in writing the course of events and the outcome.

- F. When a student assessed to have been "in imminent danger" returns to the school, the designated staff member or the appropriate school-based team (if such referral has been made) shall coordinate consultation with outside professionals, supportive services in school, and changes in the instructional program, when necessary.
- V. When addressing students who may be "at risk" or "in imminent danger" of suicide, the Designated Staff Member shall consider, in light of the particular circumstances, whether a report to the Department of Children and Families is necessary and/or appropriate in accordance with statutory mandated reporting obligations, Board policy, and/or applicable law.

#### Suicide Education/Prevention - Students and Staff

- I. As part of the Regional School District 10 Public Schools' Health Education Curriculum and Developmental Guidance Curriculum, students will be educated regarding suicide risk factors and danger signals, and how they might appropriately respond if confronted with suicidal behavior, verbalizations, or thoughts.
- II. Annually, in-service training for designated school staff will be held in each school building to discuss suicide risk factors, danger signals, and the procedures outlined in these regulations.

#### Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-220a

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-221(f)

Public Act 23-167, "An Act Concerning Transparency in Education."