

## STUDENT SUICIDE

The School Board recognizes that suicide is one of the leading causes of death for Florida's youth. The Statewide strategy for suicide prevention includes school intervention since schools, in partnership with families and communities, are in a position to identify youth at risk of suicide. Pursuant to State law, the Board will provide access to suicide prevention educational resources, as approved by the Florida Office of Suicide Prevention, to all instructional and administrative staff as part of the District's professional development program. The District's student personnel services staff, as designated by State law, will be responsible for providing suicide prevention and awareness training and resources to students and staff.

~~The Board recognizes that depression and self destruction are problems of increasing severity among children and adolescents. A student who suffers the psychological disability of depression cannot benefit fully from the educational program of the schools, and a student who has attempted self destruction poses a danger both to himself/herself and to other students.~~

~~All school personnel should be alert to the student who exhibits signs of unusual depression or who threatens or attempts suicide. Further, all school personnel should be alert to signs of suicide ideation, that is, the process of fantasizing, planning, practicing, and motivating oneself to commit suicide, and to students who threaten or attempt suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness.~~

The Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative procedures whereby members of the professional staff understand how to use an intervention procedure which includes the following:

Step 1 - Stabilization

Step 2 - Assessment of the Risk

Step 3 - Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure

Step 4 - Communication with Appropriate Parties

Step 5 - Follow-up

Throughout any intervention, it is essential that Board policies and District regulations regarding confidentiality be observed at all times.

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
BREVARD COUNTY (FLORIDA)**  
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STUDENTS  
5350/page 2 of 2