

Series 5000 – Students

1. Elementary and Secondary

D. Welfare

(1) School Medical Advisor

(l) Suicide Prevention/Intervention

The Suffield Board of Education recognizes that suicide is a complex issue and that schools are not mental health treatment centers. School personnel may recognize a potentially suicidal youth and, in such cases, may make a preliminary determination of level of risk. The Board directs the school staff to refer students who come to their attention as being at risk of attempting suicide for professional assessment and treatment services outside of the school.

The Board recognizes the need for youth suicide prevention. Training will be provided for teachers, staff, and students to provide awareness and assistance in identifying risk factors, interventions, and procedures for referral to outside services.

Any Board employee who has knowledge of a suicidal attempt, threat, or risk must immediately report this information to the building principal or his/her designee, who will, in turn, notify appropriate Pupil Personnel Services staff and/or the Student Assistance Team. The Pupil Personnel Services staff, Student Assistance Team staff member, or Crisis Resource Team staff member with administrative assistance, if necessary, will contact the student's family and appropriate resources outside and within the school system. Information concerning a student's suicide attempt, threat or risk will be shared with others to the degree necessary to protect that student and others.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes §10-221(e)

Policy adopted: August 23, 1990

Policy revised: June 3, 2008

SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Suffield, Connecticut