

CRISIS INTERVENTION
STUDENT SUICIDE

The board of education recognizes that depression and self-destruction are problems of increasing severity among children and adolescents. A student under severe stress cannot benefit fully from the educational program and may pose a threat to himself or herself or others.

The board directs all school personnel to be alert to the student who exhibits signs of potential self-destruction or who threatens or attempts suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member shall be taken with the utmost seriousness and reported immediately to the building principal, who shall notify the student's parent who will pick up their child and other professional staff members in accordance with administrative regulations.

All potentially suicidal students should be referred to the appropriate personnel in the following order (as available): School Psychologist, social worker, counselor and school nurse for appropriate evaluation and/or recommendation for independent medical or psychiatric services. In the event that the parent or guardian objects to the recommended evaluation or indicates an unwillingness to cooperate in the best interests of the student, the school shall contact the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services to request that agency's intervention on the student's behalf.

The superintendent shall prepare and disseminate regulations for guidance of staff members in recognizing the student who contemplates suicide, in responding to threatened or attempted suicide, and in preventing contagion when a student commits suicide.

Date Reviewed: February 19, 2014, March 19, 2014

Date Adopted: April 16, 2014