

Suicide Prevention

~~Although Teachers or school districts with knowledge of direct evidence of a student's suicidal tendencies have a duty to warn. neither a school district nor a teacher has a duty to warn of the suicidal tendencies of a student absent the teacher's or school district's knowledge of direct evidence of such suicidal tendencies, the District may, at its sole discretion, provide the following programs in order to prevent adolescent suicide by:~~ The purpose of this policy is to protect the health and well-being of all district students by having procedures in place to prevent, assess the risk of, intervene in, and respond to suicide. The Board directs the Superintendent or his or her designee to draft and implement procedures relating to:

1. Suicide Prevention;
2. Suicide Intervention; and
3. Suicide Postvention.

- ~~1. Offering and providing help and assistance including early identification;~~
- ~~2. Support and/or counseling by school support personnel for students;~~
- ~~3. Referral to appropriate sources outside the school for high and moderate risk students;~~
- ~~4. Attendance to the rights of the student and his or her family; and~~
- ~~5. After care support by the school for faculty, staff, and students after a sudden death has occurred. Additionally, crisis management teams may be developed to deal with tragedies such as suicide, car accidents, or similar events that might have a major impact on students or staff.~~

~~“Direct evidence” shall mean evidence which directly proves a fact without inference and which, in itself, if true, conclusively establishes that fact. Direct Suicidal evidence includes unequivocal and unambiguous oral or written statements by the student that threaten or talk about wanting to hurt or kill oneself. which would not cause a reasonable teacher to speculate regarding the existence of the fact in question. Direct evidence does not include equivocal or ambiguous oral or written statements by a student which would cause a reasonable teacher to speculate regarding the existence of the fact in question.~~

Duty to warn includes the responsibility of the teacher or school district to make a reasonable effort to communicate in a timely manner, the suicidal tendencies of the student. The teacher or school district must make an effort to notify the parent or guardian. If the principal, designee, or member of the schools' suicide prevention team believes, in their professional capacity, that contacting the parent or guardian would endanger the health or well-being of the student, they may delay such contact as appropriate while identifying appropriate resources for the student such as law enforcement or child protective services.

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-136 Suicide Prevention in Schools

I.C. § 33-512B      Suicidal Tendencies – Duty to Warn

~~Brooks v. Logan, 903 P.2d 73 (Idaho, 1995)~~

I.D.A.P.A. 08.02.03.160      Safe Environment and Discipline

Policy History:

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