

SCHOOL RESPONSE TO STUDENT SUICIDE

Student Suicide rarely, yet tragically, occurs with students who are served by our schools. There is evidence supporting the phenomenon of “suicide contagion” or “copy-cat suicides” within a community following an initial suicide.

As a strategy focused at prevention of this phenomenon, the board directs the superintendent to develop guidelines and procedures to be employed following student suicide. Essential components of these guidelines and procedures shall be:

1. Guidelines for school response to students, individually and collectively, following a suicide.
2. Guidelines for ways in which the child can be remembered as a support for the grieving process of students and families.
3. Strict limitations on events, activities, or displays that will serve, directly or indirectly, to memorialize or glorify the act of, or the victim of suicide.