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Board Policy Manual

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[➤ \(/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=ZbLJ3JOuR4pDDoDpbQRqzg==&ptid=amlgTZiB9plushNjl6WXhfiOQ==&PG=6\)](/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=ZbLJ3JOuR4pDDoDpbQRqzg==&ptid=amlgTZiB9plushNjl6WXhfiOQ==&PG=6)

➤ **Policy 5141.52: Suicide Prevention**

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 06/13/2019 | Last Revised Date: 10/15/2020 | Last Reviewed Date: 10/15/2020

[see more](#)

The Governing Board recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among youth and that school personnel who regularly interact with students are often in a position to recognize the warning signs of suicide and to offer appropriate referral and/or assistance. In an effort to reduce suicidal behavior and its impact on students and families, the Superintendent or designee shall develop measures and strategies for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

In developing policy and strategies for suicide prevention and intervention, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with school and community stakeholders such as administrators, other staff, parents/guardians, and students; school-employed mental health professionals such as school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and school nurses; suicide prevention experts such as local health agencies, mental health professionals, and community organizations; law enforcement; and, in developing policy for grades K-6, the county mental health plan. (Education Code 215)

The Board shall ensure that measures and strategies for students in grades K-6 are age appropriate and delivered and discussed in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of young students. (Education Code 215)

Measures and strategies for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention shall include, but are not limited to, staff development on suicide awareness and prevention for teachers, school counselors, and other district employees who interact with students, as described in the accompanying administrative regulation.

As appropriate, these measures and strategies shall specifically address the needs of students who are at high risk of suicide, including, but not limited to, students who are bereaved by suicide; students with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders; students who are experiencing homelessness or who are in out-of-home settings such as foster care; and students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning. (Education Code 215)

If a referral is made for mental health or related services for a student in grade K-6 who is a Medi-Cal beneficiary, the Superintendent or designee shall coordinate and consult with the county mental health plan. (Education Code 215)

District employees shall act only within the authorization and scope of their credential or license. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as authorizing or encouraging district employees to diagnose or treat mental illness unless they are specifically licensed and employed to do so. (Education Code 215)

The Board shall review, and update as necessary, this policy at least every five years. (Education Code 215)

The Superintendent or designee shall post this policy on the district's web site, in a prominent location and in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students. (Education Code 234.6)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
Ed. Code 215	Student suicide prevention policies ()
Ed. Code 215.5	Student identification cards, inclusion of safety hotlines ()
Ed. Code 216	Suicide prevention online training programs ()
Ed. Code 234.6	Bullying and harassment prevention information ()
Ed. Code 32280-32289.5	Comprehensive safety plan ()
Ed. Code 49060-49079	Student records ()
Ed. Code 49602	Confidentiality of student information ()
Ed. Code 49604	Suicide prevention training for school counselors ()
Gov. Code 810-996.6	Government Claims Act ()
Pen. Code 11164-11174.3	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act ()
W&I Code 5698	Emotionally disturbed youth; legislative intent ()
W&I Code 5850-5886	Children's Mental Health Services Act ()

Management Resources	Description
California Department of Education Publication	Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2008 ()
California Department of Education Publication	Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2019 ()
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Publica	School Connectedness: Strategies for Increasing Protective Factors Among Youth, 2009 ()
Court Decision	Corales v. Bennett (Ontario-Montclair School District), (2009) 567 F.3d 554 ()
Nat'l Assoc. of School Psychologists Publication	Preventing Suicide: Guidelines for Administrators and Crisis Teams, 2015 ()
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Publication	National Strategy for Suicide Prevention: Goals and Objectives for Action, rev. 2012 ()
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Publication	Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for High Schools, 2012 ()

Management Resources

Website	Suicide Prevention Lifeline (http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)
Website	Suicide Prevention Resource Center (http://www.sprc.org/about-suicide)
Website	American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (http://afsp.org)
Website	American Association of Suicidology (http://www.suicidology.org)
Website	American Psychological Association (http://www.apa.org)
Website	California Department of Education, Mental Health (http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/cg/mh)
Website	California Department of Health Care Services, Mental Health Services (https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/MH)
Website	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Mental Health (http://www.cdc.gov/mentalhealth)
Website	National Association of School Psychologists (http://www.nasponline.org)
Website	National Institute for Mental Health (http://www.nimh.nih.gov)
Website	Trevor Project (http://thetrevorproject.org)
Website	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (http://www.samhsa.gov)
Website	American School Counselor Association (http://www.schoolcounselor.org)

Cross References

Code	Description
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=LyrIDAanmqZctqj8vPQ4A==)
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=pGslshIHigmV0dHvifDvcxMXQ==)
0470	COVID-19 Mitigation Plan (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=SaxlbcQJukowhcegO8DbdA==)
1400	Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=YeVZl6PksHqNXzigDxBF7w==)
3515	Campus Security (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=AAclDWKDLJEDFi8ujFacVw==)
3515	Campus Security (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=Y4qaTiuZqrsIsh4NcEQeJDIfg==)
4131	Staff Development (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=w97wllhff6CplusfOYJmQwxcg==)
4231	Staff Development (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=1RXr53ggLksohuRIVmRYZQ==)
5125	Student Records (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=hLXJEjqCXZFvfX0egSLmxA==)
5125	Student Records (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=ZdnZnGjAlKwsDf1Xgb0PBg==)
5131	Conduct (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=h5xKGN8BFMSyizhxjARpluseg==)
5131.2	Bullying (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=MZ4bUAvWml2usIshblgOplus9MFQ==)
5131.2	Bullying (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=InUQyW16eSOjgDSm3oFplusww==)
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=vQcQzD1fE0ILoRppplus639BMg==)
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=V60e43BeE2bf8sDCoplusPp9w==)
5131.8	Mobile Communication Devices (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=AzpSUGwHco95IbulQvGf2w==)
5137	Positive School Climate (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=ciLLkSCxsANiw6M1Yk3Sgg==)
5138	Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=qay0h4lXqX3lriuKlZ8EsIshQ==)
5141	Health Care And Emergencies (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=5t9yGtZafNnwRut1Bd26w==)
5141	Health Care And Emergencies (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=KcsmsaebH9Vkjaldb1slshSslshg==)
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=RorX0i7uexwEBin6V2Zg1w==)
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=RVLpd8E7O7slshvKMcfmvEgRg==)
5141.6	School Health Services (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=Ri7IN4h0KYNcd5a9AWslsh3Fg==)
5141.6	School Health Services (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=ZbLJ3JOuR4pDDoDpbQRqzg==)
5142	Safety (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=84lshshgMvnaxgHsyMslshScieA==)
5142	Safety (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=7fEfrPf268hEghMilZDvqg==)
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=YhndC7IKwzyOqd5BYEEo8A==)
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=triHyi1xqvUdgXTHx52SLg==)
5145.7	Sexual Harassment (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=KBPsIsh5Jf1QuDKOOuZ7hiplusA==)
5145.7	Sexual Harassment (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=sNZmzluRMcXDWscxs1ovUg==)
5145.9	Hate-Motivated Behavior (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=jXHmhPkW4TAXrWCEh0fjGQ==)
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=MjZy3WjayAha8CX8poPtIshQ==)

Code	Description
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=Kplusyr1Y7MI7FzvWMM3MLUfw==)
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services (/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030895&revid=tIUC67dU5527sRKhHHAY7A==)

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