

## SUICIDE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

The Board recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among young people and, consequently, is a concern to this school district and the community it serves. It is the policy of the Board to actively respond in any situation where a student verbally or behaviorally indicates an intent to attempt suicide or to do physical harm to himself/herself.

While school personnel may recognize a potentially suicidal youth, it cannot make a clinical assessment of risk and provide in-depth mental health counseling. Instead, the Board directs school staff to refer students who may be at risk of attempting suicide to an appropriate service for assessment and counseling.

The Board recognizes the need for youth suicide prevention procedures and will establish program(s) to identify risk factors for youth suicide, procedures to intervene with such youth, referral services and training for teachers, other school professionals and students to provide assistance in these programs.

Any school employee who may have knowledge of a suicide threat must take the proper steps to report this information to the building principal or his/her designee who will, in turn, notify the appropriate school officials, the student's family and appropriate resource services.

---

Legal References: RCW 28A.640.020 Regulation, guidelines to eliminate discrimination – Scope –  
sexual harassment policies  
28A.150.220 Basic education act – program requirements

WAC 392-190-015 Equal educational opportunity – sex discrimination prohibited  
180-87 Professional certification – acts of unprofessional conduct