

## **Suicide Prevention Policy**

All staff who recognize any type of suicidal behavior, gesture or thought, no matter how trivial it seems, are responsible for reporting it immediately to the school psychologist and Principal. They will consult and develop a plan of action. When a concern is identified about a possible suicide, protecting the safety of the student is the priority. Students need to know that confidentiality is limited when the student's safety is in jeopardy. It is equally important for students to know the suicide information will only be shared with adults who have a need to know.

In the case of a suicidal student being on the verge of a self-destructive act in the moment, any staff member involved must not leave the student alone. The staff member should either escort the student to the School Psychologist, School Social Workers or Administrators, or should use the emergency contact procedures. If the need for a follow-up referral is determined, parents will be notified by the staff member who is assessing the situation. This staff member will work with the parents to identify appropriate referral sources.

In an actual attempted suicide, the health and safety of the student are paramount. First aid should be rendered using universal precautions. School Health Personnel and Administration should be contacted immediately via our emergency contact procedures. They will determine if and when a 911 call should be made. They are also responsible for notifying the family of the student. Support Services Staff at the direction of Administration will debrief with any staff and/or students who were affected by the incident.