



School District Suicide Prevention Policy Checklist

Based on American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) Model Policy

District policies should include the following components. Evaluate your status, consider what you already have in place and what you need to add.

- Requirement for training — ideally at least one hour every year for all school staff, including bus drivers, cafeteria staff, coaches, security, etc. — on suicide prevention, including education about mental health and warning signs or risk
- Consideration of populations at high risk for suicide, such as LGBTQ youth
- Requirement for a designated school suicide prevention coordinator
- Description of all suicide prevention team member roles and responsibilities, and the flow of communication and tasks
- Designation of the process for suicide risk assessments (either with school-employed mental health professionals or by arrangement with a community mental health professional)
- Requirement for a continuously updated referral list that has, at minimum, emergency contacts such as local hospitals and their mental health clinics and referral numbers
- Procedures for what to do in case of an in-school suicide attempt, including re-entry processes
- Consideration of out-of-school suicide attempts and how parents should be informed and involved
- Postvention procedures that follow the *After a Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools* recommendations and safely discuss a suicide attempt or death with the school community.

If your district policies do not have any of these components, revisions or enhancements are recommended.

Disclaimer: Frontline Education does not provide mental health support. This checklist is provided for informational purposes only. Always consult a mental health provider.