



SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: SUICIDE PREVENTION

ADOPTED: March 7, 1990

REVISED:

Lackawanna Trail School District

<p>1. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">819. SUICIDE PREVENTION</p> <p>If any Lackawanna Trail School District employe suspects that a child/adolescent is planning suicide, these guidelines should be followed:</p> <p>A. Low Risk - (indicators: vague feeling of hopelessness, no suicidal plans, no explicit or written or verbal threat, alienated from support system)</p> <p><u>PROCEDURES:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Refer student to guidance counselor or any TRUST TEAM member. 2. Immediate support should be given by the counselor. 3. Options for the counselor to consider: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Help the student plan positive activities. b. Consider notifying the parent and provide the parent with information sheets about early warning signs and means. c. Possible referral to TRUST. d. Provide for follow up. <p>B. High Risk - (one or more indicators are present: some threat of ending it all through explicit statements, feelings of hopelessness, a detailed suicide plan, written statements, history of a previous</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44</p>
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attempt, chronically self-destructive lifestyle combined with severe loss or threat of loss, anniversary of loss, inability to accept help, loss or depletion of support system and/or method of suicide is available)

- 1. Insure that a responsible adult is with the student at all times.
The staff member should notify a counselor, the nurse, or any TRUST TEAM member.
- 3. The counselor or nurse shall notify the building principal, as soon as possible. Notify the TRUST TEAM if appropriate.
- 4. Make the parent, and if appropriate the student, aware of the sources of help and of the community emergency telephone numbers. Provide appropriate district handouts: (Agency Referral Information)
- 5. The student may only be released to a parent or legal guardian or, in the case of a medical emergency, to hospital or emergency medical personnel. In cases of no medical emergency, if the parent or legal guardian cannot be contacted, the case manager will make the necessary arrangements to have the student evaluated.
- 6. The case manager is responsible to determine that contact has been made with appropriate community agency or therapist. Weekly contact with the family is maintained until appropriate support or treatment has been established.
- 7. Regular supportive assistance by the counselor should be arranged immediately.

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8. If the original referral was made by a friend or staff member, provide feedback after meeting with the student.

C. Attempt

In the event of a student attempting suicide during the school day and/or on school grounds, the following procedures will be followed:

PROCEDURES:

1. **Notify the school nurse and building administrator.**
2. **Call emergency medical personnel.**
3. **Notify school guidance counselor.**
4. **Notify parents or guardian.**
5. **Report the incident to the state police.**
6. **Notify the TRUST TEAM members to assist.**
7. **The principal, counselor, and TRUST TEAM will strategize a plan for response to students and faculty affected by the event.**
8. **A counselor, nurse, staff member, or administrator will stay with the student at all times.**
9. **The district's crisis response plan will be implemented,**
10. **A student who has made an overt suicide attempt may be readmitted to school only when there is an accompanying written evaluation and consent note from the attending physician/psychiatrist.**

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11. Homebound instruction will be provided in the interim if requested by the attending physician/psychiatrist.

D. Completion

RESPONSE PROCEDURES FOLLOWING COMPLETED SUICIDE OR SUDDEN STUDENT DEATH.

When a student suicide, accidental death, or otherwise sudden student death occurs, the following procedures will be followed:

1. A student death, either by suicide, accident, or other means is reported to the school.
2. The notified party will inform the Superintendent or building principal immediately.
3. The principal and counselors will decide on the most appropriate course of action for response for an accidental or medical sudden death,
4. The principal and counselors will organize the TRUST TEAM for response to faculty and students.
5. In the case of a student suicide, the telephone snow chain will inform all faculty members of an early morning faculty meeting the next school day, during which time plans for response to the students will be explained.
6. The principal or designee will contact the family of the deceased to form a partnership for the response. Accurate information and the family's wishes must be determined in order to give a factual account to the students and the Superintendent.

