



Memorandum

Date: September 21, 2026

To: Board of Directors of the Pendleton School District 16R

From: Rebecca Marshall, Student Services Coordinator

Subject: Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Post-Crisis Plan

Background: September is Suicide Awareness Month. We are taking this opportunity to share with the board the procedures, processes and practices the district takes to prevent suicide, how we respond when a student is in crisis, and what we do when there has been a death by suicide.

Prevention & Belonging:

1. *Suicide Prevention, Intervention, & Crisis Plan*

In alignment with Senate Bill 52 (SB 52, 2019) and OAR 581-022-2510, Pendleton School District (PSD) has a Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Crisis Response plan (2023). The plan is posted on the PSD 16R website; an outline of the plan is listed below:

- What every staff member should know about suicide
- Prevention
 - Health education
 - Student responsibilities
 - Staff training
 - Prevention planning
- Intervention
 - Warning signs
 - Intervention protocols
 - Risk screening
- Parent/Guardian responsibilities
- Post crisis response plans
- Communication plans
- Resources for staff, students, and families

2. *Education & Support*

a. Staff training

All staff receive training through our SafeSchools annual training on Youth Suicide: Awareness, Prevention and Postvention. This course provides an overview and information for staff to reduce the likelihood of suicide among students. The course provides information on how to respond when a student shows warning signs of suicidal ideation. We have offered Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) training to our staff. <https://qprinstitute.com/about-qpr>



b. Student education

Our K-12 Health Curriculum contains developmentally appropriate lessons on suicide awareness and prevention, which all students receive. Our classrooms also incorporate social emotional learning as part of the daily curriculum. Our school counselors and administrators receive training through the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training Program and Mental Health First Aid. QPR is being provided to all high school freshmen in their health class through a partnership with Community Counseling Solutions (CCS).

c. School environment

Schools discuss students of concern on a regular basis, including those who may be experiencing mental health challenges, and assign a team member to follow up and support a student who is struggling. We utilize our School Based Health Centers to connect students with mental health counseling.

d. Community outreach

Counselors work closely with community agencies to support a student at school who is experiencing suicidal ideation or who has attempted suicide. Counselors work with the CARE program to connect families to resources and agency support when applicable. We utilize the IMESD Crisis Flight Team when a crisis occurs to support our staff and students in recovering from a death by suicide and prevent risk of suicide contagion.

3. Our district beliefs

As a district, we take suicide prevention seriously. We are doing a great deal of work to support the well-being and mental health of our students at every level of the system. It takes all of us to be aware and respond when a student expresses suicidal ideation. We take every instance seriously and respond according to our plans.

Recommendation:

- Increase community mindfulness of September as Suicide Awareness Month.
- Recognize and be responsive to House Bill 3643 (2025) designating October 9 as Oregon Youth Suicide Awareness Day.

Additional resources:

- Suicide Prevention Plans, Required Components
- Suicide Prevention. It's Everyone's Responsibility.
- District tool, Creating Conditions for Effective Prevention of Suicide and Substance Use
- District flier, House Bill 3643, Suicide Awareness Day