

Section: G Personnel

Policy Code: GADAC Suicide Prevention Education In-Service Training

Suicide Prevention Education In-Service Training

The Board of Trustees of the Jackson County School District recognizes that suicide is a major cause of death among youth and should be taken seriously. It is the policy of this school district that in-service training on suicide prevention education will be conducted for all newly employed school district employees.

The board establishes this policy in an effort to take positive steps toward reducing student suicide through:

1. **Prevention.** To provide in-service training to all newly employed school district employees with information about the recognition of the signs of suicidal behavior; including, but not limited to, early identification and delegation of responsibility for planning and coordination of suicide prevention efforts along with steps for reporting students who they believe to be at an elevated risk for suicide.
2. **Intervention.** To take affirmative action when an immediate referral is warranted, such as when a student verbalizes about suicide, presents overt risk factors such as aggression or intoxication, the act of self-harm occurs, or a student self-refers and to understand the emergency procedures when a referral is made and to provide support for students.
3. **Postvention.** To respond to suicide or suicide attempt, utilizing the district's crisis response, documentation, and reporting procedures.

Beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, the school district shall conduct, every two (2) years, refresher training on mental health and suicide prevention for all school employees and personnel, including all cafeteria workers, custodians, teachers, and administrators. This training shall be in connection with the Mississippi Department of Mental Health. The district shall report completion of the training to the State Department of Education.

As required by law, this policy shall be further developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders, school-employed mental health professions, and suicide prevention experts.

This school district shall utilize training materials and resources developed by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health and shall comply with all requirements of the Mississippi Department of Education regarding suicide prevention.

The superintendent or designee shall develop procedures for implementation of this policy.

Additional suicide prevention resources are available through the Mississippi Department of Education.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can be reached at 1-800-273-8255(TALK); <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

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Suicide Prevention Policy

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—Prevention:

To provide in-service training to all school district employees with information about the recognition of the signs of suicidal behavior; including, but not limited to, early identification and delegation of responsibility for planning and coordination of suicide prevention efforts

—Intervention:

To take affirmative action when an immediate referral is warranted and to understand the emergency procedures when a referral is made and to provide support for students.

Postvention:

To respond to suicide or suicide attempt, utilizing the district's crisis response, documentation, and reporting procedures.

As required by law, this policy shall be further developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders, school-employed mental health professions, and suicide prevention experts. This school district shall utilize training materials and resources developed by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health and shall comply with all requirements of the Mississippi Department of Education regarding suicide prevention.

The superintendent or designee has developed the procedural guidelines for suicide prevention for all Jackson County School District employees.

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