



**Mental Health Care
Policy Series: 3000**

Policy No. 3419

Purpose:

Provo City School District acknowledges and supports that parents are the primary individuals responsible for raising their child, for making educational decisions for their children, and in determining the supports their children may need to optimize their educational experience. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students have access to the mental health supports they may need, particularly in times of emergencies or safety concerns, while ensuring the parents' rights in determining what these supports should look like, the topics that can be discussed with their children, and that parents should be notified when these interactions occur.

Definitions:

1. "Authorized personnel" means an individual:
 - a. Who holds a license:
 - i. As a school psychologist, as defined in Utah Code § 53F-5-218;
 - ii. As a school social worker, as defined in Utah Code § 53F-5-218;
 - iii. Under Utah Code Title 58, Chapter 61, Psychologist Licensing Act;
 - iv. Under Utah Code Title 58, Chapter 60, Part 2, Social Worker Licensing Act;
 - v. Under Utah Code Title 58, Chapter 60, Part 3, Marriage and Family Therapist Licensing Act; or
 - vi. Under Utah Code Title 58, Chapter 60, Part 4, Clinical Mental Health Counselor Licensing Act; or
 - vii. Who is supervised by someone with one of the above licenses, to the extent the person's actions fall within the scope of that supervision; and
 - b. Whom the District, or a District school, employs or engages by contract or agreement to support student mental health through a restricted service consistent with the scope of the individual's license or certification.

- 40 2. "Restricted service" means a mental health service that takes place in a school setting. It
41 does **not** include:
- 42 a. Describing basic stress-management strategies;
 - 43 b. Informing students and parents of the availability of a restricted service; or
 - 44 c. Engaging in generalized crisis response, which does not include one-on-one
45 therapy, in accordance with District or Utah State Board of Education crisis
46 response protocols.

49 **Providing Restricted Services**

51 Except as provided in a student's IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan, only authorized
52 personnel may provide restricted services to students. Authorized personnel may only provide
53 restricted services within the scope of the provider's license and without other students present.
54 Informed written parental consent must also be obtained as provided below.

56 Written parental informed consent for restricted services must be obtained before the first
57 session of a restricted service in a given school year. A student's IEP or Section 504
58 accommodation plan that includes a restricted service satisfies the requirement for written
59 parental informed consent. Otherwise, the consent shall be obtained using a standard form that
60 includes:

- 61 1. Fields for at least the following information:
 - 62 a. Student name;
 - 63 b. Name of individual giving consent;
 - 64 c. Name of each authorized personnel who has authority under the consent to
65 provide a restricted service;
- 66 2. A statement that, unless the parent opts out of receiving notices (which the parent may
67 do at any time), the authorized personnel will provide within one business day after each
68 session notice to the parent that the restricted service took place and a description of the
69 topic of the service; and
- 70 3. A statement that authorized personnel will adhere to the topics or issues that the parent
71 identifies, in collaboration with authorized personnel, for discussion with or exclusion
72 from the student, except that the topics may be addressed if:
 - 73 a. The omission would compromise the student's immediate safety;
 - 74 b. The omission would violate mandatory reporting requirements; or
 - 75 c. Based on behaviors or statements that the authorized personnel observes, the
76 authorized personnel determines a need to assess the student's safety.

79 When obtaining the consent, the District, school, or authorized personnel shall, through
80 consultation with the parent, provide the parent with an opportunity to identify topics or issues
81 the parent intends the authorized personnel to address or to not address with the student. The
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83 authorized personnel may not address a topic or issue that the parent has expressly stated
84 should not be addressed unless:

- 85 1. not doing so within the restricted service would compromise the student's immediate
86 safety or
- 87 2. the student discloses information that creates a duty for the authorized personnel to
88 make a mandatory report (including for suspected cases of child abuse or neglect under
89 Utah Code § 80-2-602, abuse of a student under Utah Code § 53E-6-701, or any other
90 legally mandated duty to report). If one of these exceptions applies, the authorized
91 personnel may only discuss the information with the student to the extent necessary to
92 make the report.

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94 The requirement to obtain parental consent does not apply if delaying contact with a parent
95 would create an immediate and serious risk of suicide or serious bodily injury, as defined in
96 Utah Code § 76-1-101.5, to the student or to another individual. If this circumstance occurs, the
97 District, school, or authorized personnel shall notify the parent in accordance with the
98 requirements of Policy 3320 (Report of Bullying), Policy 3421 (Report of Child Abuse/Neglect),
99 and Policy 5090 (Code of Conduct: Mandatory Reporting Requirements of Employees).

100 101 102 **Legal References**

103 [Utah Code § 53G-9-604 \(2024\)](#)

104 [Utah Code § 53G-9-901 \(2025\)](#)

105 [Utah Code § 53G-9-902\(1\) \(2025\)](#)

106 [Utah Code § 53G-9-902\(2\), \(3\)\(c\) \(2025\)](#)

107 [Utah Code § 53G-9-902\(3\) \(2025\)](#)

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110 **Board Approved:**