



Book	Policy Manual
Section	(JS) Special Update - Nov.22
Title	STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND SCREENING
Code	po5350
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5350 - **STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND SCREENING**

The School Board recognizes that suicide is one of the leading causes of death for Florida's youth. To address the prevalence of student suicide, the Board believes there must be a partnership between families, the community, and schools. It is critical for families and community members to communicate with and provide information to school staff to identify students at risk of suicide.

The Board will provide access to suicide prevention educational resources to all instructional and administrative staff as part of the District's professional development program. The suicide educational resources will include material approved by the Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention, the Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition, and the Coordinated School Health Resource Center. The District's student personnel services staff will be responsible for providing suicide prevention, awareness, and screening training and resources to students and staff.

Signs of Suicidal Ideations

All school personnel should be alert to signs of suicide ideation and to students who threaten or attempt suicide. Suicide ideation is the process of fantasizing, planning, practicing, and motivating oneself to commit suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness. Families, community members, and students are encouraged to report any such signs to the Principal.

Suicide Risk Assessments

All schools and local mobile response teams shall use the same ~~suicide risk assessment instruments~~ ~~suicide screening instrument~~ approved by the FLDOE pursuant to F.S. 1012.583. **Only school-based mental health service providers who have been trained in the use of the instruments utilized by the District may give a risk assessment to a student expressing suicidal ideation or suicidal intent.**

A "school-based mental health services provider" means a school psychologist certified under F.A.C. 6A-4.0311, a school social worker certified under F.A.C. 6A-4.035, a school counselor certified under F.A.C. 6A-4.0181, or a mental health professional licensed under F.S. Chapters 490 or 491, who is employed or contracted by the District to provide mental health services in its schools.

If a trained school-based mental health services provider is unavailable, a contracted certified or licensed mental health provider may evaluate students in the District for suicide risk, including the mobile response teams serving the District.

When a suicide risk assessment results in the initiation of an involuntary examination, the Principal is required to make a reasonable attempt to notify the student's parent(s) before the student is removed from school, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity, unless notification is delayed pursuant to F.S. 1002.20.

When a suicide risk assessment results in a change in related services or monitoring, a student's parent(s) must be notified as soon as possible, unless notified is withheld or delayed pursuant to AP 1213, AP 3213, or AP 4213 - Student Supervision and Welfare.

Resources Listed on Student Identification Cards (Grades 6 Through 12)

Any student identification cards issued to students in grades 6 through 12 will include the telephone numbers for national or Statewide crisis and suicide hotlines and text lines.

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[F.S. 14.2019](#)

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[F.S. 1001.32\(2\)](#)

F.S. 1008.386

[F.S. 1012.583](#)

F.A.C. 6A-1.0018

F.A.C. 6A-4.0010