

## **BP 5141.52 SUICIDE PREVENTION**

The School Board believes adolescent suicide must be openly addressed and that staff, students and parents/guardians must be made aware of warning signs and procedures by which they may help suicidal students. School staff, students and parents/guardians all can contribute significantly towards the prevention of adolescent suicide.

Threats must be taken seriously. The Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate staff members with procedures for intervening in low-risk and in high-risk crisis situations. These procedures shall include guidelines by which staff members may assess the seriousness of a student's risk for suicide.

### **Staff Awareness & Training**

*(cf. 4131- Staff Development)*

The Board strongly encourages teachers to help students of all ages develop both a positive self-image and a realistic attitude towards potential accomplishments.

In order that district staff may learn suicide prevention strategies, to recognize the warning signs of suicidal crisis, to understand how to help suicidal youths, and to identify helpful community resources, the Superintendent or designee shall arrange suicide awareness and prevention training as required by law. Additional certificated and classified staff may also be included. The district suicide prevention policy and procedures shall be thoroughly reviewed at this time. Staff shall be expected to learn to identify potentially suicidal students, to assess the degree of risk, to take preventive precautions and to report suicide threats to the appropriate authorities.

*Legal Reference:*

#### ALASKA STATUTES

[14.30.362](#) *Suicide awareness and prevention training*

*AASB Master Policy Manual 9/92*

*Revised 9/2016*

**Anchorage School District**

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