

## **ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINE**

### **Title: Safe Schools: Suicide Risk Management**

**Effective Date: May 22, 2018**

**Responsibility: Superintendent of Education**

#### **1.0 Rationale:**

The Near North District School Board is committed to providing safe, welcoming and supportive learning environments for staff and students. All school boards promote student well-being and at times are faced with supporting students who are having thoughts of suicide and may need to respond to a student death by suicide. The NNDSB has a Suicide Risk Management Best Practice Guideline that addresses suicide pr

## **Urgent Response**

### **Step One – Identification**

School staff may have a student disclose directly their thoughts of suicide or a student may reveal it through social media, behavior, to a classmate, or within writing assignments. Please see the best practice guidelines for warning signs.

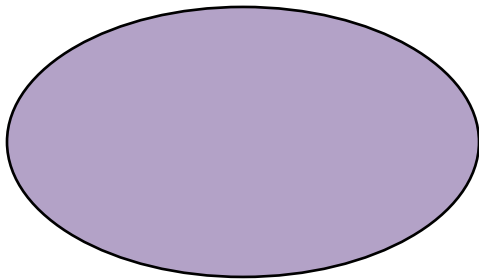
Any warning signs or disclosures warrant prompt attention and before the end of the school day

### **Safety Plan and Wellness Recovery**

Please note that a hospitalization at a time of crisis is limited treatment service that is only focused on stabilization of the immediate crisis.

Most students will return with ongoing mental health challenges and need to be linked to services and appropriate resources

See the Suicide Risk Management Best Practice Guideline for more information and suggestions for ongoing support of the student



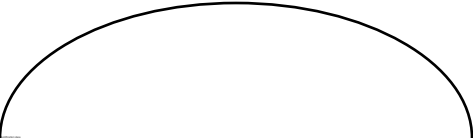
Student identified as NOT SUICIDAL but supports needed

In school Identifier trained in

\*Active Suicide Attempt emergency  
Call 911 and Parent or Guardian (under direction of Principal)  
OR Take Directly to Hospital

Parent is contacted and assumes responsibility

Admitted





**CRISIS RESPONSE IMMEDIATE ACTION  
FLOW CHART**

PRINCIPAL RECEIVES  
INFORMATION  
REGARDING A CRISIS

Confirm the event  
Gather pertinent information

CRT LEADER calls  
PRINCIPAL OF  
SPECIAL ED.

Discuss scope of  
event and make a  
plan for  
response/support

NORTH REGION – Chris S. Bogue x 8550  
EAST/WEST REGION – Penny Moffat  
774-6907 (cell)

School-based  
CDC is  
notified

Consider  
system  
effects

**CRISIS RESPONSE ACTION CHECKLIST FOR PRINCIPALS**

- confirm the crisis event and gather pertinent information
- contact Superintendent and CRT team leader
- find out what information the family wants shared
- in order to share information and dispel rumors, develop a communication plan appropriate to the event
  - hold a staff meeting
  -

based on consultation with family  
 consider lowering the flag to half-mast until after funeral for the death of a student  
 for a death by suicide, refer to Postvention Strategies in the Suicide Risk Management Best Practice Guideline

## Accessing Supports

**The Crisis Response Team's role** is to stabilize the immediate crisis and to direct those that require it to additional ongoing supports. For some, the crisis may trigger some personal past history that requires further support. It is important to offer and link staff and students to appropriate resources.

### Supports for Staff

All board staff have access to an Employee and Family Assistance Program (EAFP) through the Human Resources Department. The Crisis Response Team will highlight these services as well as any local community services. Staff that appear to be struggling will be encouraged to seek out those resources and services.

The EAFP service provider is Shepell and they offer a wide variety of services and resources. Professional counselling under the Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) is accessed voluntarily by the employee and family members, and is strictly confidential. Our EFAP counsellor network is a multi-disciplinary team of professionals who have master's degrees or PhDs in the fields of psychology, clinical soc0w. (y) 3008 Tw IO59. (y) Tw IO5916