

**CLOVIS UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT****STUDENTS****Health and Welfare****STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION**

**PURPOSE:** To establish guidelines and set expectations related to student suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

The Board recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among youth and should be taken seriously. To attempt to reduce suicidal behavior and its impact on students and families, the Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures relating to prevention, intervention, and postvention that specifically address the needs of high-risk groups, including but not limited to the following:

1. Youth bereaved by suicide.
2. Youth with disabilities, mental illness, or substance abuse disorders.
3. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth.
4. Youth experiencing homelessness or in out-of-home settings, such as foster care.
5. Youth with a history of suicide ideation or attempts.
6. Youth who have suffered traumatic experiences.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a plan that addresses procedures in suicide prevention, intervention and postvention. School and community stakeholders, school-employed mental health professionals, and suicide prevention experts will be involved in planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating the District's procedures for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

**Staff Training**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop staff training in suicide awareness and prevention. Suicide prevention training for staff shall be designed to help staff identify and respond to students at risk of suicide. The training shall be offered under the direction of a District counselor/psychologist and/or in cooperation with one or more community mental health agencies.

Suicide prevention training shall be provided to teachers, counselors, and other District employees who interact with students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. The training materials shall include how to identify appropriate mental health services (both at the school site and within the larger community) and when and how to refer youth and their families to those services. The Board shall ensure that measures and strategies for students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade are age appropriate and delivered and discussed in a manner that is sensitive

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to the needs of young students. (Education Code section 215). These training materials may include training programs that can be completed through self-review of suitable suicide prevention materials. No District employee will be trained to act outside his/her authorization and scope of his/her credential or license. District employees will not diagnose or treat mental illness unless the employee is specifically licensed and employed to do so.

The Board shall review, and update as necessary, this policy at least every five years.

The Superintendent or designee shall post this policy on the District's website in a prominent location and in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students.

Adopted: 06/28/2017

Amended: 07/15/2020, 11/18/2020 (BP 2410 renumbered as BP 5141.52)

**EDUCATION CODE**

215-216 Student Suicide Prevention Policies

215.5 Suicide prevention hotline contact information on student identification cards

216 Suicide prevention online training program

234.6 Posting suicide prevention policy on website

32280-32289.5 Comprehensive safety plan

49060-49079 Student records

49602 Confidentiality of student information

49604 Suicide prevention training for school counselors

**GOVERNMENT CODE**

810-996.6 Government Claims Act

**PENAL CODE**

11164-11174.3 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

**WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE**

5698 Emotionally disturbed youth; legislative intent

5850-5883 Mental Health Services Act

**COURT DECISIONS**

Corales v. Bennett (Ontario-Montclair School District) (2009) 567 F.3d 554

Doc# 43421-10 (10/2020, 12/2018)