

Policy 5141.52: Suicide Prevention

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 06/05/2020 | **Last Revised Date:** 02/03/2022

The Governing Board recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among youth, prevention is a collective effort that requires stakeholder engagement, and school personnel who regularly interact with students are often in a position to recognize the warning signs of suicide and to offer appropriate referral and/or assistance. In an effort to reduce suicidal behavior, its impact on students and families, and other trauma associated with suicide, the Superintendent or designee shall develop measures, strategies, practices, and supports for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

In developing policy and procedures for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with school and community stakeholders, school-employed mental health professionals, suicide prevention experts. (Education Code 215)

School and community stakeholders and school mental health professionals with whom the Superintendent or designee shall consult may include administrators, counselors, psychologists, social workers, nurses, other staff, parents/guardians and caregivers, students, local health agencies, mental health professionals, community organizations, law enforcement, legal counsel, and/or the Eden Area Regional Occupational Program (Eden Area ROP) risk manager or insurance carrier. The Superintendent or designee may also collaborate with county and/or city governments in an effort to align Eden Area ROP policy with any existing community suicide prevention plans.

Measures and strategies for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Staff development on suicide awareness and prevention for teachers, interns, school counselors, and others who interact with students, including, as appropriate, substitute teachers, coaches, expanded day learning staff, crossing guards, tutors, and volunteers
2. Methods for promoting a positive school climate that enhances students' feelings of connectedness with the school and that is characterized by caring staff and harmonious interrelationships among students
3. Encouragement for students to notify appropriate school personnel or other adults when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions
4. Crisis intervention procedures for addressing suicide threats or attempts
5. Counseling and other postvention strategies for helping students, staff, and others cope in the aftermath of a student's suicide

As appropriate, these measures and strategies shall specifically address the needs of students who are at high risk of suicide, including, but not limited to, students who are bereaved by suicide; students with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders; students who are experiencing homelessness or who are in out-of-home settings such as foster care; and students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning. (Education Code 215)

Eden Area ROP employees shall act only within the authorization and scope of their credential or license. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as authorizing or encouraging Eden Area ROP employees to diagnose or treat mental illness unless they are specifically licensed and employed to do so. (Education Code 215)

The Board shall review, and update as necessary, this policy at least every five years. The Board may, at its discretion, review the policy more frequently. (Education Code 215)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

Description

Ed. Code 215	Suicide prevention policies
Ed. Code 215.5	Student identification cards; inclusion of safety hotlines
Ed. Code 216	Suicide prevention online training programs

Ed. Code 234.6	Bullying and harassment prevention information
Ed. Code 32280-32289.5	School safety plans
Ed. Code 49060-49079	Student records
Ed. Code 49602	Counseling and confidentiality of student information
Ed. Code 49604	Suicide prevention training for school counselors
Gov. Code 810-996.6	Government Claims Act
Pen. Code 11164-11174.3	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act
W&I Code 5698	Emotionally disturbed youth; legislative intent
W&I Code 5850-5886	Children's Mental Health Services Act

Management Resources References

Description

California Department of Education Publication	Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2019
California Department of Education Publication	Model Youth Suicide Prevention Policy
California Department of Education Publication	Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2008
CALSCHLS Publication	California School Staff Survey (CSSS)
CALSCHLS Publication	California School Parent Survey (CSPS)
CALSCHLS Publication	California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS)
Centers for Disease Control&Prevention Publication	School Connectedness: Strategies for Increasing Protective Factors Among Youth, 2009
Court Decision	Corales v. Bennett (Ontario-Montclair School District), (2009) 567 F.3d 554
Each Mind Matters Publication	Making Headlines: Guide to Engaging the Media in Suicide Prevention in California, 2012
Heard Alliance Publication	K-12 Toolkit for Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention, 2017
Mental Health Svcs Oversight & Accountability Pub	Striving for Zero: California's Strategic Plan for Suicide Prevention 2020-2025
Nat'l Assoc. of School Psychologists Publication	Preventing Suicide: Guidelines for Administrators and Crisis Teams, 2015
Suicide Prevention Resource Center Publication	After a Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools, 2nd Edition, 2018
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Publication	Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for High Schools, 2012
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Publication	National Strategy for Suicide Prevention: Goals and Objectives for Action, rev. 2012
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDsIshXk6R5akQ==
Website	Suicide Prevention Messaging - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/WgC4PLLjrBOIBeSNRS8O4g==
Website	National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/tud4tHfNpPI5tEY5Fj036A==
Website	Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BfgjBiPvJqdkl8LZ1o91g==
Website	HEARD Alliance - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/CZqVMxuR72Oxcslsh5XaSU0iA==
Website	Each Mind Matters: California's Mental Health Movement - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/qpka5RPTtcMrmjmbnWkpnA==
Website	Crisis Text Line - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fHZ6qL5YDq7TZgyB6pMx8A==

Website	CalSCHLS - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MhvMT2GZ5w18eNbppUL7Aw==
Website	California Mental Health Services Authority - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/x1slsh1z08IKZaJDnuI97LIRQ==
Website	National Child Traumatic Stress Network - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fsMXOe6GO4nOQplus2T5QtsUQ==
Website	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fqslshmyInfegyQnF2VZzOI5g==
Website	Suicide Prevention Lifeline - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/afV0kpluspY6dedsmutWePi1w==
Website	Suicide Prevention Resource Center - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2cfjFY4ju3lrj8NMBvPa0g==
Website	Trevor Project - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/YGdplusizjTY5ffqCzyaC432A==
Website	American Academy of Pediatrics - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/pQA5jsiFzEUmkj21atIW8w==
Website	American Association of Suicidology - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2epimFF2un2Erplus9gZent5w==
Website	American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/FEUu0bQA19UxSaw3Wtfi0A==
Website	American Psychological Association - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/whnZxkEv3ftXlzAgq4Eknw==
Website	California Department of Education, Mental Health - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/U8ybLhobslshszvvd8YxPBKw==
Website	California Department of Health Care Services, Mental Health Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/lhJ9lBnSx33gyv3jSdm7LQ==
Website	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Mental Health - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zljgm8LIDlJLplusGWxslshSbPEQ==
Website	National Association of School Psychologists - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2Pbs2elshshfyVi8hrLANClshQ==
Website	National Institute for Mental Health - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/IYEsleokeWiWcCFo92HqaA==
Website	American School Counselor Association - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/R1ggYp24tGNHpluszwmaMrEvg==

Cross References

Description

0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BqsTTEay3qjmfO4iSU7slshvA==
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/qZV7Uq0UTa6fu4JQDmEslsh5g==
0470	COVID-19 Mitigation Plan - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/lkd0OQYrdrn0CMAAnaMO7MAw==
1112	Media Relations - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MZnex5zDZ5qKnaohlhtzVQ==
1220	Citizen Advisory Committees - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Ukztn8obv2wvHYrt6YyrXQ==
1220-E PDF(1)	Citizen Advisory Committees - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/cgge0hBbpluslxfR9MT1h53QQ==
1240	Volunteer Assistance - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/grfk2plusfzw2DJJWZ6WMvypaA==

1240	Volunteer Assistance - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/YCbehdu5XHV0vJxUuUnGiw==
1400	Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/o3J7uJ1sXa6HhkvLyl1gMw==
3515	Campus Security - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hPhZ71ILDcJHvLbslshBQvz3w==
4121	Temporary/Substitute Personnel - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/N2C6YsKYwhCRcCeraFplusCng==
4121	Temporary/Substitute Personnel - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/TxPplushZopmplusFgl2Kv57ffhA==
4131	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/uP83U93Ls7bxBnKbH0uyyg==
4131	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/8CAcELrJtCybNFPvCiecyw==
4231	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/GJ5nOaM5sMBqslsh21YMISuzQ==
4231	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/IQtCNZih73p1VSMTZSLbdw==
4331	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/WoVV14SyA2vNgt348oslshRcw==
5125	Student Records - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/WH7SkYd23dx87QIsQey8plusw==
5125	Student Records - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/5xwV0pslshBZqom7dBNC3VjqQ==
5131	Conduct - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Oc4gCr2h2q4YLamzIkV07Q==
5131.2	Bullying - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/JcJT8wTaV2slshznaxEFdVjqg==
5131.2	Bullying - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/KJEhAAzM900qAFyqIY8Uww==
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/cloDY1FarL8O01PyPYplusZ3g==
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hFj9y0kjVslshQKYzslshVslshyLkw==
5131.8	Mobile Communication Devices - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/92pluseYHKslsh3nV4z1hVD4p4wQ==
5137	Positive School Climate - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/urpjuWVuu9UaXbjXiYKMAw==
5141	Health Care And Emergencies - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/L40hHKxYmvK4Snzt1XY6Wg==
5141	Health Care And Emergencies - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/SffkNlqyypmupAcOpDJJng==
5141.22	Infectious Diseases - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/QbJVAQdmFtsJCaENTJl98g==
5141.22	Infectious Diseases - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/xPPv1Cal1UnoZR0xeUtuGw==
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/mkBG513idfpAslshWCzrplusg7A==
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/47N1nZFwIxBAkiglUxLSg==

5141.4-E PDF(1)	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/w7dygQRxCINI6WdppB70ow==
5142	Safety - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/s0wxslshzp2nelMI7plus7oY8aWQ==
5142	Safety - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/uFiA8ZaTQK0kYnabvRtgJQ==
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/VfUPcSJZZtt92oksSX5JGw==
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/uufJGZHP3JQkLGTplusT4iecw==
5145.7	Sexual Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/faSlGnQyujTfPzj4XpiZPg==
5145.7	Sexual Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/gwEZwjnslshDBnbmXH3BRqig==
5145.71	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/p5Ktg9A5BE8gDAJDuuH3LQ==
5145.71-E PDF(1)	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ptilHvEslshFyOvkZqZyIRgkQ==
5145.9	Hate-Motivated Behavior - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/S55oZzOb82uslshNakerO4C1g==
6145.8	Assemblies And Special Events - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/wuljQplusRD4e389113cmWOW==
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/TGUvZ9YYeUcMZslsh2KNSSuRw==