



HOLY FAMILY ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 140

OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES

CATEGORY: SCHOOL OPERATIONS

TITLE: STUDENT PROTECTION

CODE: 5134 Student Suicide

| Reference Matrix | |
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| Education Act (1995) | Sections 190, 232, |
| Other Related Acts | <i>Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LAFOIP)</i> |
| Holy Family Related Procedures | OP 5135 Traumatic Events OP 5141 Student Conduct OP 5142 Student Discipline |
| Holy Family Related Manuals | Traumatic Incident Protocol Guide, 2013 Traumatic Event Response Resource Guide |
| Resources (Ministry, SSBA, SCSBA, etc.) | Southeast and Area Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol |
| Date Reviewed | January 6, 2016 |

Background:

The Board is committed to creating and maintaining an environment in schools where students, staff, parents, and others feel safe. To this end, the Board shall establish protocol for responding to threats of self-harm.

The Board requires that all threats be treated seriously. This means that all threats will be assessed and that the appropriate interventions and actions will be taken in accordance with policy and legislation.

Procedures:

1. Reporting

1.1. Any person in a school having knowledge of suicidal behavior or having reasonable grounds to believe there is a potential for suicidal behavior shall immediately report information to the Principal or designate.

1.2. Students and staff who become aware of a threat are to inform the Principal immediately.

- 1.3. No action shall be taken against a person who makes a report unless it is made maliciously or without reasonable grounds.
- 1.4. In cases where a report is made maliciously, the person shall be dealt with according to [OP 5141 Student Conduct](#) and [OP 5142 Student Discipline](#) and the law, where applicable.

2. Roles and Responsibilities of Responders

- 2.1. Principal – contact parent(s)/guardian(s); involve Threat Assessment Team member, and In School Counselor; support family
- 2.2. In School Counselor – act as a school designate and consult with family
- 2.3. School Designate – conduct brief screen (conduct initial assessment based on conversations with child, administration, teachers, and parent(s)/guardian(s))
- 2.4. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) – upon the student being returned to their care, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will assume responsibility and may transport student to Mental Health; may refer to Mental Health on their own; follow-up with the school

3. Duty to Respond

- 3.1. School and Division staff is required to respond to all suspected suicidal behaviors; all suicide related behaviors shall be taken seriously and assessed accordingly.

3.2. Situations that are life threatening/immediate:

- 3.2.1. Assure that 911 has been called and that the student has been transported to Emergency Services.
- 3.2.2. Notify the parents.

3.3. Situations that may need suicide assessment (some suicide warning signs):

3.3.1. Someone who says two or more of the following?

www.psychcentral.com – World of Psychology)

- Life isn't worth living
- My family, friends or girlfriend/boyfriend would be better off without me
- Next time I'll take enough pills to do the job right
- Take my prized collection or valuables — I don't need this stuff anymore
- Don't worry, I won't be around to deal with that
- You'll be sorry when I'm gone
- I won't be in your way much longer
- I just can't deal with everything — life's too hard

- I won't be a burden much longer
 - There's nothing I can do to make it better
 - I'd be better off dead
 - I feel like there is no way out
 - You'd be better off without me
- 3.3.2. If it is determined a Suicide Assessment is needed it is to be completed by some with Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) whenever possible.
- 3.3.3. If no one with ASIST training is available contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) to pick up the student and advise the parent(s)/guardian(s) to contact the local Mental Health office; also contact the local Mental Health office to advise that there is a student potentially in need of a suicide assessment.
- 3.3.4. If student is uncooperative contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) and local Mental Health office to advise that student is unwilling to cooperate and is in need of an assessment.
4. In the event that a student has attempted suicide on site take prudent action as advised in [Traumatic Incident Protocol Guide](#).