

**Suicide Prevention**

The Bethany Board of Education (Board) recognizes that suicide is a complex issue and that, while the school may recognize a potentially suicidal youth, it cannot make a clinical assessment of risk and provide in-depth counseling. Instead, the Board directs the school staff to refer students who may be at risk of attempting suicide to an appropriate service for professional assessment, counseling, and treatment services outside of the school.

The Board recognizes the need for youth suicide prevention procedures and will establish programs to identify risk factors for youth suicide, procedures to intervene with such youth, referral services, and training for teachers, other school professionals, and students to provide assistance in these programs.

Any Bethany Public School District (District) employee who may have knowledge of a suicide threat, attempt, or ideation must take the proper steps to immediately report this information to the school administration or designee, who will, in turn, notify the appropriate school intervention team, the student's family and appropriate resources outside and within the District.

Information concerning a student's suicide attempt, threat, or risk will be shared with others to the degree necessary to protect that student and others.

Legal Reference:           Connecticut General Statutes § 10-221(e)

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