

DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Danbury, Connecticut

POLICY

SUICIDE PREVENTION/INTERVENTION

Adopted: 2/9/2000

Policy No. 7-131.4*

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The Danbury Board of Education recognizes that suicide is a complex issue and that schools are not mental health treatment centers. School personnel may recognize a potentially suicidal youth, and in such cases must make a preliminary determination of level of risk. The Board directs the school staff to refer students who come to their attention as being at risk of attempting suicide to further assessment and treatment services outside of the school.

The Board of Education recognizes the need for youth suicide prevention procedures and will establish programs to assist staff to identify risk factors, intervention procedures, and referral services. Training will be provided for teachers and other school staff and students to provide awareness and assistance in this area.

Any school employee who has knowledge of a suicidal threat, attempt, or ideation must immediately report this information to the building principal or designee, who will, in turn, notify appropriate Pupil Personnel Services staff. PPS staff, with administrative assistance, if necessary, will contact the student's family and appropriate resources outside and within the school. Information on a student's suicide attempt, threat or risk should be shared with others to the degree necessary to protect that student and others.

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