### School Board Policy Executive Summary

**Form D**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Number:</th>
<th>5350</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title of Policy:</strong></td>
<td>Student Suicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cabinet Member:</strong></td>
<td>Christine Moore, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose of Revisions:</strong></td>
<td>The purpose of the proposed revisions to the policy is to ensure compliance with all applicable federal and state laws, Florida State Board of Education Rules, Board policies, administrative rules, procedures, and guidelines. In addition, the proposed revisions promote transparency and accountability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tentative Schedule:**
- Cabinet – 12/16/19
- Work Session – 1/14/20
- Rule Development Workshop – 1/28/20
- School Board Meeting Information – 1/28/20
- School Board Meeting Approval – 2/11/20
- Effective Date – upon approval

**Summary of Proposed Policy Revisions:**
- This policy is being revised to clarify procedures for ensuring all staff have access to suicide prevention resources through professional development and other changes in compliance with applicable Florida law.
- Particular areas of revision include the following: title change to “Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention” and in-service requirements for schools to become a “Suicide Prevention Certified School”.
- These proposed revisions encompass the suggested language from NEOLA.

**Specific Authority:**
§§14.2019, 14.20195, 1001.32, 1012.583; F.S.

**Next Steps:**
- Revisions to internal procedures
- Revisions to Administrative Procedures 5350 Student Suicide
- Training for BPS employees regarding revisions to policy and revised procedures
Current Version
5350 - STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Board recognizes that suicide is one of the leading causes of death for Florida's youth. To address the prevalence of student suicide, the Board believes there must be a partnership between families, the community, and schools. It is critical for families and community members to communicate with and provide information to school staff to identify students at risk of suicide.

The Board will provide access to suicide prevention educational resources to all instructional and administrative staff as part of the District's professional development program. The suicide educational resources will include material approved by the Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention, the Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition, and the Coordinated School Health Resource Center. The District's student personnel services staff will be responsible for providing suicide prevention and awareness training and resources to students and staff.

Further, all school personnel should be alert to signs of suicide ideation, that is, the process of fantasizing, planning, practicing, and motivating oneself to commit suicide, and to students who threaten or attempt suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness.

Professional development training in youth suicide prevention opportunities shall be provided for student personnel services staff, administration, and instructional staff. Further, additional professional development training regarding risk assessment and intervention shall be provided to mental health employees, counselors, psychologists, and school nurses.

The Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative procedures whereby members of the professional staff understand how to use an intervention procedure, which includes the following:

Step 1 - Stabilization
Step 2 - Assessment of the Risk
Step 3 - Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure
Step 4 - Communication with Appropriate Parties
Step 5 - Follow-up

Throughout any intervention, it is essential that Board policies and District regulations regarding confidentiality be observed at all times.

Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention

A continuing education program of youth suicide awareness and prevention training, utilizing training materials from the list approved by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) shall be developed. Instruction about how to identify appropriate mental health services and how to refer youth and their families to those services shall be included in the program.

If provided at a school, the training shall be included in the existing continuing education or in-service training requirements for instructional personnel. If all instructional personnel at a District school participates in two and one-half (2.5) hours of youth suicide awareness and prevention training that school will be considered "Suicide Prevention Certified School".
The Superintendent will notify the FLDOE of all schools qualifying for this designation.

Pursuant to State law, participating in the training does not create any new duty of care or the basis of liability.

F.S. 14.2019
F.S. 14.20195
F.S. 1001.32(2)
F.S. 1012.583

Cross References
ap5350 – STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION PROCEDURES

Adopted 5/1/02
Revised 7/22/14
Revised 9/11/18

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Template
5350 - STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND SCREENING

The School Board recognizes that suicide is one of the leading causes of death for Florida's youth. To address the prevalence of student suicide, the Board believes there must be a partnership between families, the community, and schools. It is critical for families and community members to communicate with and provide information to school staff to identify students at risk of suicide.

The Board will provide access to suicide prevention educational resources to all instructional and administrative staff as part of the District's professional development program. The suicide educational resources will include material approved by the Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention, the Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition, and the Coordinated School Health Resource Center. The District's student personnel services staff will be responsible for providing suicide prevention, awareness, and screening training and resources to students and staff.

All school personnel should be alert to signs of suicide ideation and to students who threaten or attempt suicide. Suicide ideation is the process of fantasizing, planning, practicing, and motivating oneself to commit suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness. Families, community members, and students are encouraged to report any such signs to the Principal.

Professional development training in youth suicide prevention shall be provided for student personnel services staff, administration, and instructional staff. Further, additional professional development training regarding risk assessment and intervention shall be provided to mental health employees, counselors, psychologists, and school nurses.

The training for the student personnel services staff, administration, and instructional staff shall develop an understanding of how to use an intervention procedure which includes the following:

   Step 1 - Stabilization
   Step 2 - Assessment of the Risk
   Step 3 - Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure
   Step 4 - Communication with Appropriate Parties
   Step 5 - Follow-up

Throughout any intervention, it is essential that Board policies and District procedures regarding confidentiality be observed at all times.

Youth Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Screening

A. Training

A two (2) hour continuing education training program of youth suicide awareness, prevention, and screening training, utilizing training materials from the list approved by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE), shall be developed. Instruction about how to identify appropriate mental health services and how to refer youth and their families to those services shall be included in the program. If provided at a school, the training shall be included in the existing continuing education or in-service training requirements for instructional personnel.

B. Suicide Prevention Certified Schools

Any District school that meets the following requirements shall be considered a "Suicide Prevention Certified School"
under Florida law:

1. If all instructional personnel at the District school have participated in the two (2) hours of youth suicide awareness, prevention, and screening and prevention training; and that school will be considered “Suicide Prevention Certified School”.

2. The school has at least two (2) school-based staff members certified or otherwise deemed competent in the use of a suicide screening instrument approved by the FLDOE and has a policy to use such suicide risk screening instrument to evaluate a student’s risk before requesting the initiation of, or initiating, an involuntary examination due to concerns about the student’s suicide risk.

The Superintendent will notify the FLDOE of all schools qualifying for this designation. Each school shall also post on its own website whether it is a Suicide Prevention Certified School, and the District shall post on its website a list of the Suicide Prevention Certified Schools in the District.

Pursuant to State law, participating in the training does not create any new duty of care or the basis of liability.

[END OF OPTION]

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Legal References
F.S. 14.2019
F.S. 14.20195
F.S. 1001.32(2)
F.S. 1012.583

Cross References
ap5350 - SUICIDE INTERVENTION PROCESS
Redline Draft
BPS Current

5350 - STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

A. The Board recognizes that suicide is one of the leading causes of death for Florida's youth. The Statewide strategy for suicide prevention includes school intervention since schools, in partnership with families and communities, are in a position to identify youth at risk of suicide. Pursuant to State law, the Board will provide access to suicide prevention educational resources, as approved by the Florida Office of Suicide Prevention, to all instructional and administrative staff as part of the District's professional development program. The District's student personnel services staff, as designated by State law, will be responsible for providing suicide prevention and awareness training and resources to students and staff. To address the prevalence of suicide, the Board believes there must be a partnership between families, the community, and schools. It is critical for families and community members to communicate with and provide information to school staff to identify students at risk of suicide.

B. The Board will provide access to suicide prevention educational resources to all instructional and administrative staff as part of the District's professional development program. The suicide educational resources will include material approved by the Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention, the Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition, and the Coordinated School Health Resource Center. The District's student services staff will be responsible for providing suicide prevention, awareness, and screening training and resources through the Suicide Risk Inquiry (SRI) process.

C. Further, all school personnel should be alert to signs of suicide ideation, that is, the process of fantasizing, planning, practicing, and motivating oneself to commit suicide, and to students who threaten or attempt suicide. Suicide ideation is the process of fantasizing, planning, practicing, and motivating oneself to commit suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness. Families, community members, and students are encouraged to report any such signs to the school principal or designee.

D. Professional development training in youth suicide prevention shall be provided for student services staff, administration, and instructional staff. Further, additional professional development training regarding risk assessment and intervention shall be provided to mental health employees, counselors, psychologists, social workers and school nurses.

E. The Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative procedures whereby members of the professional staff understand how to use an intervention procedure which includes the following:

   - **Step 1:** Stabilization
   - **Step 2:** Assessment of the Risk
   - **Step 3:** Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure - Administration of an FDOE approved Suicide Risk Inquiry must be administered by appropriate personnel (certified or licensed school psychologist, school social worker, or school counselor) prior to a Baker Act.
   - **Step 4:** Communication with Appropriate Parties
   - **Step 5:** Follow-up
Throughout any intervention, it is essential that Board policies and District regulations regarding confidentiality be observed at all times.

F. Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention.

1. Training

A 2.5 hour continuing education training program of youth suicide awareness and prevention training utilizing training materials approved by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) shall be available at all district schools. Instruction about how to identify appropriate mental health services and how to refer youth and their families to those services shall be included in the program.

2. Suicide Prevention Certified Schools

Any District School that meets the following requirements shall be considered a “Suicide Prevention Certified School” under Florida law:

a. All instructional personnel at the school have participated in the 2.5 hours of youth suicide awareness and prevention training, and

b. The school has at least two (2) school-based staff members certified or otherwise deemed competent in the use of a suicide screening instrument approved by the FLDOE and has a policy to use such suicide risk screening instruments to evaluate a student’s risk before requesting the initiation of an involuntary examination due to concerns about the student’s suicide risk.

3. The Superintendent or designee will notify the FLDOE of all schools qualifying for this designation. Each school shall also post on its own website whether it is a Suicide Prevention Certified School and the District shall post on its website a list of the Suicide Prevention Certified Schools in the District.

G. Pursuant to State law, participating in the training does not create any new duty of care or the basis of liability.

767 F. 2d 651 (1985)

Revised 7/22/14
Revised ____________

F.S. 14.2019 
F.S. 14.20195 
F.S. 1001.32(2) 
F.S. 1012.583 

Cross References 
ap5350 – STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION PROCEDURES 

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Clean Version
5350 - STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

A. The Board recognizes that suicide is one of the leading causes of death for Florida's youth. To address the prevalence of suicide, the Board believes there must be a partnership between families, the community, and schools. It is critical for families and community members to communicate with and provide information to school staff to identify students at risk of suicide.

B. The Board will provide access to suicide prevention educational resources to all instructional and administrative staff as part of the District's professional development program. The suicide educational resources will include material approved by the Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention, the Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition, and the Coordinated School Health Resource Center. The District's student services staff will be responsible for providing suicide prevention, awareness, and screening training and resources through the Suicide Risk Inquiry (SRI) process.

C. All school personnel should be alert to signs of suicide ideation and to students who threaten or attempt suicide. Suicide ideation is the process of fantasizing, planning, practicing, and motivating oneself to commit suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness. Families, community members, and students are encouraged to report any such signs to the school principal or designee.

D. Professional development training in youth suicide prevention shall be provided for student services staff, administration, and instructional staff. Further, additional professional development training regarding risk assessment and intervention shall be provided to mental health employees, counselors, psychologists, social workers and school nurses.

E. The training for student services staff, administration, and instructional staff shall develop an understanding of how to provide an intervention procedure which includes the following:

   Step 1: Stabilization
   Step 2: Assessment of the Risk
   Step 3: Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure - Administration of an FDOE approved Suicide Risk Inquiry must be administered by appropriate personnel (certified or licensed school psychologist, school social worker, or school counselor) prior to a Baker Act.
   Step 4: Communication with Appropriate Parties
   Step 5: Follow-up

Throughout any intervention, it is essential that Board policies and District regulations regarding confidentiality be observed at all times.

F. Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention.

   1. Training

      A 2.5 hour continuing education training program of youth suicide awareness and prevention training utilizing training materials approved by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) shall be available at all district schools. Instruction about how to identify appropriate mental health services and how to refer youth and their families to those services shall be included in the program.

   2. Suicide Prevention Certified Schools
Any District School that meets the following requirements shall be considered a “Suicide Prevention Certified School” under Florida law:

a. All instructional personnel at the school have participated in the 2.5 hours of youth suicide awareness and prevention training, and

b. The school has at least two (2) school-based staff members certified or otherwise deemed competent in the use of a suicide screening instrument approved by the FLDOE and has a policy to use such suicide risk screening instruments to evaluate a student’s risk before requesting the initiation of an involuntary examination due to concerns about the student’s suicide risk.

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G. Pursuant to State law, participating in the training does not create any new duty of care or the basis of liability.

Revised 7/22/14
Revised__________

F.S. 14.2019
F.S. 14.20195
F.S. 1001.32(2)
F.S. 1012.583

Cross References
ap5350 – STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION PROCEDURES

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Related Administrative Procedures
Administrative Procedure "Current"
Board Policy 5350 states: All school personnel should be alert to the student who exhibits signs of unusual depression or who threatens or attempts suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness.

When a student is suspected or has been identified as being a threat to himself/herself, the following steps should be taken.

**Step 1 – Stabilization**

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/IB-6c.pdf (pages 1-4)

Supervise the student. Escort the student directly to the attention of a school guidance counselor. (If the student is acting out, let the principal know and call for law enforcement.)

Bring the situation to the attention of an administrator.

Under no circumstance should the student be allowed to leave school or be alone (even in the restroom) until a risk assessment has been completed and a plan generated. If necessary and appropriate, solicit the aid of other adults to monitor the situation.

Assign a designated point person who has the ability and training to do a risk assessment (guidance counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, and/or mental health practitioner).

Provide resources to parents.

**Step 2 - Assessment of the Risk**

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/IB-6c.pdf (page 5)

Appropriate trained staff (guidance counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, or mental health practitioner) is assigned to do the risk assessment indicating LOW risk, MODERATE risk or HIGH risk.
Step 3 - Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/IB-6c.pdf (pages 5-6)

LOW Risk action: Reassure and supervise student; warn parent; assist in connecting with school and community resources; suicide-proof environments; mobilize a support system; develop a safety plan that identifies caring adults, appropriate communication and coping skills and resource numbers.

Document all actions.

MODERATE Risk action: Supervise student at all times (including restrooms). Notify and hand off student ONLY to:

1. Parent or guardian who commits to seek an immediate mental health assessment.

2. Law Enforcement

Document all actions

HIGH Risk action: Supervise student at all times (including restrooms). Notify and hand off student ONLY to:

1. Parent or guardian who commits to seek an immediate mental health assessment.

2. Law Enforcement

Document all actions

Step 4 - Communication with Appropriate Parties

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/IB-6b.pdf (pages 1-2)
Collaborate with administration. Difficult decisions may have to be made and having the support and consultation from the administrator (or designee) and one other staff member such as the school psychologist, school resource officer, nurse, counselor or social worker is suggested.

Step 5 - Follow-up

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/CL-7a.pdf (pages 2-4)

Develop a postvention plan for the school (staff and students) to reduce the potential cluster (copycat) suicides.

Prepare a re-entry plan. All students returning from mental health hospitalization should have a re-entry meeting where parents, schools and community mental health personnel make appropriate follow up plans.

Throughout any intervention, it is essential that Board policies and District regulations regarding confidentiality be observed at all times.

F.S. 1001.42(6)
767 F 2d 651 (1985)

Approved 9/1/10
Revised 6/9/11
Administrative Procedure “NEOLA”
In compliance with School Board Policy 5350, any time a staff member encounters a situation in which a student appears to be contemplating suicide, the following process should be followed carefully. If the student's behavior involves unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or the threat of these activities, employees must disclose such information in accordance with Policy 8406 - Reports of Suspicious Activity and Potential Threats to Schools.

**Step One - Stabilize the Situation**

A. Under no circumstances is a suicidal student to be left alone.

B. Converse with the student immediately to determine if s/he has any dangerous instrumentalities (weapon, substance, or other material capable of inflicting a mortal wound) on or nearby his/her person.

C. If the student will allow, immediately remove any dangerous instrumentalities from the student and the student's environment.

D. If the student will agree, accompany him/her to a prearranged, non-threatening place away from other students and other people but where there is another adult and a telephone close by. If the principal can be notified without leaving the student, do so as quickly as possible. If the student will not agree, stay calm and remain with him/her until someone comes by. Either the principal (if available) or the staff member should proceed to Step Two without delay.

**Step Two - Assess the Risk**

A. Stay relaxed and talk calmly to the student to assess the risk of the student harming himself/herself. Listen intently to what the student is saying and avoid giving advice. Keep questions nonjudgmental.

B. If the student will not relinquish a dangerous instrumentality, use EXTREME RISK PROCEDURE (Step Three A).

C. If the student is in imminent danger of harming himself/herself, use SEVERE RISK PROCEDURE (Step Three B).

D. If the student is not in imminent danger of harming himself/herself, use MODERATE RISK PROCEDURE (Step Three C).

**Step Three - Take Appropriate Action**

**A. EXTREME RISK PROCEDURE**

1. Contact the police or _____________________________.

2. Keep the student engaged in conversation as well as reassuring him/her until the police arrive.

3. After the police arrive, and if good rapport has been established with the student, remain present to provide continuity and support as the police attempt to get the student to relinquish the dangerous instrumentality.

4. Contact the student's parents and inform them of what has transpired and of the actions being taken.

**B. SEVERE RISK PROCEDURE**

1. Determine if the student's distress is the result of parental abuse, neglect, or exploitation. If so, notify the County Welfare Department immediately, give them the facts, request them to intervene, and follow their instructions.
2. If the agency does not intervene before the end of the school day, call the emergency squad.

3. Make sure the student's parents have been contacted.

C. MODERATE RISK PROCEDURE
   1. Try to determine the reason(s) for the student's distress. Contact the parents, give them the facts, and ask them to come to the school right away.
   2. Assist the parents in making contact with an agency or resource person who can provide appropriate intervention.

**Step Four - Communicate**
   A. Inform the appropriate members of the District staff such as
      ( ) the __________________________ Team,
      ( ) the school psychologist,
      ( ) the student's teachers and counselors

      of the facts and the actions being taken. Alert them that they may need to observe the District's confidentiality requirements (AP 2411), although the occurrence was not something that developed during counseling.

   B. If the parents request, inform the student's close friends of the facts and the actions being taken.

**Step Five - Follow-Up**
   A. Determine the extent to which emergency or short-term procedures were completed properly.
   B. Find out if arrangements have been made for long-term clinical and/or support services.
   C. If neither short-term procedures nor long-term services were properly conducted or pursued, consult with the Superintendent to determine appropriate action.
   D. Maintain continuing contact with the student to communicate interest in his/her welfare and support of the long-term services being provided.
   E. Remain alert to the possibility of "copy-cat" suicide attempts by other students.
   F. Evaluate steps A - E.

**SUICIDE POSTVENTION PROCESS**

If, in spite of all intervention efforts, a suicide should occur, implement the District's Crisis Intervention Plan.

If additional guidance is needed, contact the American Association of Suicidology, 5221 Wisconsin Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20015 (202) 237-2280.

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Cross References

po5350 - STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION
Administrative Procedure “Redline”
5350 - STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROCEDURES

In compliance with Board Policy 5350 Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention states: All school personnel should be alert to the student who exhibits signs of unusual depression or who threatens or attempts suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or any time a staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness. Encounters a situation in which a student appears to be contemplating suicide, the following process should be followed carefully. Refer to the Brevard Public School Suicide Risk Inquiry (SRI) Procedures at https://www.brevardschools.org/Domain/8308.

When a student is suspected or has been identified as being a threat to himself/herself, the following steps should be taken.

Step 1 – Stabilization.

A. Under no circumstances is a suicidal student to be left alone.

B. If the student will agree, accompany him or her 1) to a prearranged, non-threatening place away from others; and 2) where there is another adult and telephone close by; or 3) escort the student to Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW).

C. If the student will not agree, call for immediate assistance.

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/IB-6c.pdf (pages 1-4)

Supervise the student. Escort the student directly to the attention of a school guidance counselor. (If the student is acting out, let the principal know and call for law enforcement.)

Bring the situation to the attention of an administrator.

Under no circumstance should the student be allowed to leave school or be alone (even in the restroom) until a risk assessment has been completed and a plan generated. If necessary and appropriate, solicit the aid of other adults to monitor the situation.

Assign a designated point person who has the ability and training to do a risk assessment (guidance counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, and/or mental health practitioner).

Provide resources to parents.

Step 2 - Assessment of the Risk.

A. The Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW) will conduct the risk assessment procedures to determine the level of risk of self-harm.
B. If the student is at SERIOUS RISK of self-harm, use SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3A, below.

C. If the student is at ELEVATED RISK of self-harm, use ELEVATED RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3B, below.

D. If the student is AT-RISK of self-harm, use AT-RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3C, below.

E. If the student is at NO or LOW RISK of self-harm, use NO or LOW RISK PROCEDURE, see Step 3D, below.

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/IB-6c.pdf (page 5)

Appropriate trained staff (guidance counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, or mental health practitioner) is assigned to do the risk assessment indicating LOW risk, MODERATE risk or HIGH risk.

Step 3 - Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure.

A. SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE.

1. The Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW) will consult with School Psychologist, School-based and/or District Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

2. The CSC or SW will notify school administrator or designee.

3. The CSC or SW will notify the School Resource Officer (SRO) or local law enforcement agency immediately if the situation indicates the need for an involuntary commitment.

4. The school official knowledgeable about the situation (CSC, SW, or school administrator) will:
   a. contact the parent/legal guardians to inform of actions taken because of the Suicide Risk Inquiry (SRI);
   b. complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org;
   c. follow up with the re-entry planning meeting for when the student returns to school; and
   d. The administrator will notify the Office of Elementary Programs or Secondary Leading and Learning and complete an Incident Report with the District Security.

B. ELEVATED RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE.
1. The Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW) will contact the parent/legal guardians to advise that an assessment was conducted and discuss the available mental health services and supports;

2. The CSC or SW will follow up with the student;

3. The CSC or SW will complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org; and

4. The CSC or SW will follow up with the re-entry planning meeting for when the student returns to school.

C. AT-RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE.

1. If after initial screening student is found to be AT-RISK OF SELF-HARM, CSC or SW will complete the Columbia Assessment Instrument to determine the severity of the risk (SERIOUS RISK or ELEVATED RISK).

2. If the student is at SERIOUS RISK of self-harm, use SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3A, above.

3. If the student is at ELEVATED RISK of self-harm, use ELEVATED RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3B, above.

D. NO or LOW RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE.

1. The Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW) will contact the parent/legal guardians to advise that an assessment was conducted and discuss the available mental health services and supports;

2. The CSC or SW will follow up with the student, and

3. The CSC or SW will complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org.

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/
http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/IB-6c.pdf (pages 5-6)

LOW Risk action: Reassure and supervise student; warn parent; assist in connecting with school and community resources; suicide-proof environments; mobilize a support system; develop a safety plan that identifies caring adults, appropriate communication and coping skills and resource numbers.

Document all actions.

MODERATE Risk action: Supervise student at all times (including restrooms). Notify and hand off student ONLY to:

1. Parent or guardian who commits to seek an immediate mental health assessment.

2. Law Enforcement
Document all actions

HIGH Risk action: Supervise student at all times (including restrooms). Notify and hand off student ONLY to:

1. Parent or guardian who commits to seek an immediate mental health assessment.
2. Law Enforcement

Document all actions

Step 4 - Communication with Appropriate Parties.

1. If a student is at SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM, CSC or SW will notify the SRO or local law enforcement agency immediately if the situation indicates the need for an involuntary commitment, see Step 3A, above.
2. CSC or SW or school administrator will contact the parent/legal guardians, see Step 3, above.
3. If a student is at SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM, the administrator will notify the Office of Elementary Programs or Secondary Leading and Learning and complete an Incident Report with District Security, see Step 3A, above.

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/IB-6b.pdf (pages 1-2)

Collaborate with administration. Difficult decisions may have to be made and having the support and consultation from the administrator (or designee) and one other staff member such as the school psychologist, school resource officer, nurse, counselor or social worker is suggested.

Step 5 - Follow-up.

1. If a student is at SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM, CSC or SW will follow up with the re-entry planning meeting for when the student returns to school and complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org, see Step 3A, above.

2. If a student is at ELEVATED RISK OF SELF-HARM, CSC or SW will follow up with the re-entry planning meeting for when the student returns to school and complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org, see Step 3B, above.
If a student is at NO or LOW RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, CSC or SW will follow up with the student and complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org, see Step 3D, above.

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/

http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/pdf/CL-7a.pdf (pages 2-4)

Develop a postvention plan for the school (staff and students) to reduce the potential cluster (copycat) suicides.

Prepare a re-entry plan. All students returning from mental health hospitalization should have a re-entry meeting where parents, schools and community mental health personnel make appropriate follow up plans. Throughout any intervention, it is essential that Board policies and District regulations regarding confidentiality be observed at all times.

F.S. 1001.42(6)
767 F.2d 651 (1985)

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Revised 6/9/11
Revised

F.S. 14.2019
F.S. 14.20195
F.S. 1001.32(2)
F.S. 1012.583

Cross Reference
Po5350 Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention
Administrative Procedure
“Clean”
5350 - STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROCEDURES

In compliance with Policy 5350 Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention any time a staff member encounters a situation in which a student appears to be contemplating suicide, the following process should be followed carefully. Refer to the Brevard Public School Suicide Risk Inquiry (SRI) Procedures at https://www.brevardschools.org/Domain/8308.

Step 1 – Stabilization.

A. Under no circumstances is a suicidal student to be left alone.

B. If the student will agree, accompany him or her 1) to a prearranged, non-threatening place away from others; and 2) where there is another adult and telephone close by; or 3) escort the student to Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW).

C. If the student will not agree, call for immediate assistance.

Step 2 - Assessment of the Risk.

A. The Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW) will conduct the risk assessment procedures to determine the level of risk of self-harm.

B. If the student is at SERIOUS RISK of self-harm, use SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3A, below.

C. If the student is at ELEVATED RISK of self-harm, use ELEVATED RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3B, below.

D. If the student is AT-RISK of self-harm, use AT-RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3C, below.

E. If the student is at NO or LOW RISK of self-harm, use NO or LOW RISK PROCEDURE, see Step 3D, below.

Step 3 - Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure.

A. SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE.

1. The Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW) will consult with School Psychologist, School-based and/or District Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

2. The CSC or SW will notify school administrator or designee.

3. The CSC or SW will notify the School Resource Officer (SRO) or local law enforcement agency immediately if the situation indicates the need for an involuntary commitment.

4. The school official knowledgeable about the situation (CSC, SW, or school administrator) will:

   a. contact the parent/legal guardians to inform of actions taken because of the Suicide Risk Inquiry (SRI);

   b. complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org;

   c. follow up with the re-entry planning meeting for when the student returns to school; and
d. The administrator will notify the Office of Elementary Programs or Secondary Leading and Learning and complete an Incident Report with the District Security.

B. ELEVATED RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE.

1. The Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW) will contact the parent/legal guardians to advise that an assessment was conducted and discuss the available mental health services and supports;

2. The CSC or SW will follow up with the student;

3. The CSC or SW will complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org; and

4. The CSC or SW will follow up with the re-entry planning meeting for when the student returns to school.

C. AT-RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE.

1. If after initial screening student is found to be AT-RISK OF SELF-HARM, CSC or SW will complete the Columbia Assessment Instrument to determine the severity of the risk (SERIOUS RISK or ELEVATED RISK).

2. If the student is at SERIOUS RISK of self-harm, use SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3A, above.

3. If the student is at ELEVATED RISK of self-harm, use ELEVATED RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, see Step 3B, above.

D. NO or LOW RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE.

1. The Certified School Counselor (CSC) or School-based Social Worker (SW) will contact the parent/legal guardians to advise that an assessment was conducted and discuss the available mental health services and supports;

2. The CSC or SW will follow up with the student, and

3. The CSC or SW will complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org.

Step 4 - Communication with Appropriate Parties.

1. If a student is at SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM, CSC or SW will notify the SRO or local law enforcement agency immediately if the situation indicates the need for an involuntary commitment, see Step 3A, above.

2. CSC or SW or school administrator will contact the parent/legal guardians, see Step 3, above.

3. If a student is at SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM, the administrator will notify the Office of Elementary Programs or Secondary Leading and Learning and complete an Incident Report with District Security, see Step 3A, above.
Step 5 - Follow-up.

1. If a student is at SERIOUS RISK OF SELF-HARM, CSC or SW will follow up with the re-entry planning meeting for when the student returns to school and complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org, see Step 3A, above.

2. If a student is at ELEVATED RISK OF SELF-HARM, CSC or SW will follow up with the re-entry planning meeting for when the student returns to school and complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org, see Step 3B, above.

3. If a student is at NO or LOW RISK OF SELF-HARM PROCEDURE, CSC or SW will follow up with the student and complete a Mental Health Referral and send to studentservicesintake@brevardschools.org, see Step 3D, above.

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Cross Reference
Po5350 Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention