Printed: 12/13/2022 03:40 PM

## **Regulation 5141.52: Suicide Prevention**

Original Adopted Date: 09/27/2022 | Last Reviewed Date: 09/27/2022

Status: ADOPTED

Student identification cards shall include the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline telephone number and may also include the Crisis Text Line and/or a local suicide prevention hotline telephone number. (Education Code 215.5) Staff Development

Suicide prevention training shall be provided to teachers, counselors, and other district employees who interact with students. The training shall be offered under the direction of a district counselor/psychologist and/or in cooperation with one or more community mental health agencies.

Materials for training shall include how to identify appropriate mental health services at the school site and within the community, and when and how to refer youth and their families to those services. Materials also may include programs that can be completed through self-review of suitable suicide prevention materials. (Education Code 215(https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/mNh8eplus7SMKrNffUM612IKA==))

Staff development shall include research and information related to the following topics:

- 1. The higher risk of suicide among certain groups, 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 youth
- 2. Individual risk factors such as previous suicide attempt(s) or self-harm, history of depression or mental illness, family history of suicide or violence, feelings of isolation, interpersonal conflicts, a recent severe stressor or loss, family instability, impulsivity, and other factors
- 3. Warning signs that may indicate depression, emotional distress, or suicidal intentions, such as changes in students' personality or behavior and verbalizations of hopelessness or suicidal intent
- 4. Protective factors that may help to decrease a student's suicide risk, such as resiliency, problem-solving ability, access to mental health care, and positive connections to family, peers, school, and community
- 5. Instructional strategies for teaching the suicide prevention curriculum and promoting mental and emotional health
- 6. School and community resources and services, including resources and services that meet the specific needs of high-risk groups
- 7. Appropriate ways to interact with a student who is demonstrating emotional distress or is suicidal and procedures for intervening when a student attempts, threatens, or discloses the desire to die by suicide, including, but not limited to, appropriate protocols for monitoring the student while the immediate referral of the student to medical or mental health services is being processed
- 8. District procedures for responding after a suicide has occurred Instruction

The Districts comprehensive health education program shall promote the healthy mental, emotional, and social development of students and shall be aligned with the state content standards and curriculum framework. Suicide prevention instruction shall be incorporated into the health education curriculum at appropriate secondary grades and shall be designed to help students:

- 1. Identify and analyze signs of depression and self-destructive behaviors and understand how feelings of depression, loss, isolation, inadequacy, and anxiety can lead to thoughts of suicide
- 2. Develop coping and resiliency skills and self-esteem
- 3. Learn to listen, be honest, share feelings, and get help when communicating with friends who show signs of suicidal intent
- 4. Identify trusted adults, school resources, and/or community crisis intervention resources where youth can get help and recognize that there is no stigma associated with seeking services for mental health, substance abuse, and/or suicide prevention

## Intervention

Students shall be encouraged to notify a teacher, principal, counselor, or other adult when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions. Every statement regarding suicidal intent shall be taken seriously. Whenever a staff member suspects or has knowledge of a student's suicidal intentions based on the student's verbalizations or act of self-harm, the staff member shall promptly notify the principal or school counselor, who shall implement district intervention protocols as appropriate.

Although any personal information that a student discloses to a school counselor shall generally not be revealed, released, referenced, or discussed with third parties, the counselor may report to the principal or student's parents/guardians when there is reasonable cause to believe that disclosure is necessary to avert a clear and present danger to the health, safety, or welfare of the student or others within the school community. In addition, the counselor may disclose information of a personal nature to psychotherapists, other health care providers, or the school nurse for the sole purpose of referring the student for treatment. (Education Code 49602(https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ag09U7g5NpluskrMi3AAplusglOg==))

School employees shall act only within the authorization and scope of their credential or license. An employee is not authorized to diagnose or treat mental illness unless specifically licensed and employed to do so. (Education Code 215(https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/mNh8eplus7SMKrNffUM612IKA==))

Whenever schools establish a peer counseling system to provide support for students, peer counselors shall receive training that includes identification of the warning signs of suicidal behavior and referral of a suicidal student to appropriate adults.

When a suicide attempt or threat is reported, the principal or designee shall ensure student safety by taking the following actions:

- 1. Immediately securing medical treatment and/or mental health services as necessary
- 2. Notifying law enforcement and/or other emergency assistance if a suicidal act is being actively threatened
- 3. Keeping the student under continuous adult supervision until the parent/guardian and/or appropriate support agent or agency can be contacted and has the opportunity to intervene
- 4. Removing other students from the immediate area as soon as possible

The principal or designee shall document the incident in writing, including the steps that the school took in response to the suicide attempt or threat.

The Superintendent or designee shall follow up with the parent/guardian and student in a timely manner to provide referrals to appropriate services as needed. If the parent/guardian does not access treatment for the student, the Superintendent or designee may meet with the parent/guardian to identify barriers to treatment and assist the family in providing follow-up care for the student. If follow-up care is still not provided, the Superintendent or designee shall consider whether it is necessary, pursuant to laws for mandated reporters of child neglect, to refer the matter to the local child protective services agency.

For any student returning to school after a mental health crisis, the principal or designee and/or school counselor may meet with the parents/guardians and, if appropriate, with the student to discuss re-entry and appropriate next steps to ensure the student's readiness for return to school and determine the need for ongoing support.

Postvention

In the event that a student dies by suicide, the Superintendent or designee shall communicate with the student's parents/guardians to offer condolences, assistance, and resources. In accordance with the laws governing confidentiality of student record information, the Superintendent or designee shall consult with the parents/guardians regarding facts that may be divulged to other students, parents/guardians, and staff The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures to address students' and staffs grief and to minimize the risk of imitative suicide or suicide contagion. The Superintendent or designee shall provide students, parents/guardians, and staff with information, counseling, and/or referrals to community agencies as needed. School staff may receive assistance from school counselors or other mental health professionals in determining how best to discuss the suicide or attempted suicide with students.

Any response to media inquiries shall be handled by the district-designated spokesperson who shall not divulge confidential information. The district's response shall not sensationalize suicide and shall focus on the district's postvention plan and available resources.

After any suicide or attempted suicide by a student, the Superintendent or designee shall provide an opportunity for all staff who responded to the incident to debrief, evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies used, and make recommendations for future actions.

**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

Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through California Department of Education Publication

Grade Twelve, 2019

California Department of Education Publication Model Youth Suicide Prevention Policy

Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools. California Department of Education Publication

Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2008

California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS)

**CALSCHLS Publication** California School Staff Survey (CSSS) California School Parent Survey (CSPS) **CALSCHLS Publication** 

School Connectedness: Strategies for Increasing Protective Factors Among CDC and Prevention Publication

Youth, 2009

Court Decision Corales v. Bennett (Ontario-Montclair School District), (2009) 567 F.3d 554

Making Headlines: Guide to Engaging the Media in Suicide Prevention in **Each Mind Matters Publication** 

California, 2012

**Heard Alliance Publication** K-12 Toolkit for Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention, 2017

Mental Health Svcs Oversight & Accountability Striving for Zero: California's Strategic Plan for Suicide Prevention 2020-

Nat'l Assoc. of School Psychologists Publication

After a Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools, 2nd Edition, 2018 Suicide Prevention Resource Center Publication

U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for High Schools, 2012

Publication

**CALSCHLS Publication** 

U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services

National Strategy for Suicide Prevention: Goals and Objectives for Action,

Publication rev. 2012

CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services -Website

https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDslshXk6R5akQ==

Preventing Suicide: Guidelines for Administrators and Crisis Teams, 2015

Suicide Prevention Messaging -Website

https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/WgC4PLLjrBOIBeSNRS8O4g==

National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention -Website

https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/tud4tHfNpPI5tEY5Fj036A==

Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission -

Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BfgjBiPvJqdkl8lLZ1o91g==

**HEARD Alliance -**Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/CZqVMxuR72Oxcslsh5XaSU0iA== Each Mind Matters: California's Mental Health Movement -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/gpka5RPTtcMrmjmbnWkpnA== Crisis Text Line -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fHZ6qL5YDq7TZgyB6pMx8A== CalSCHLS -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MhvMT2GZ5w18eNbppUL7Aw== California Mental Health Services Authority -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/x1slsh1z08lKZaJDnul97LIRQ== National Child Traumatic Stress Network -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fsMXOe6GO4nOQplus2T5QtsUQ== Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fqslshmylnfegyQnF2VZzOl5g== Suicide Prevention Lifeline -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/afV0kpluspY6dedsMutWePi1w== Suicide Prevention Resource Center -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2cfjFY4ju3lrj8NMBvPa0g== Trevor Project -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/YGdplusizjTY5ffqCzyaC432A== American Academy of Pediatrics -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/pQA5jsiFzEUmkj21atlW8w== American Association of Suicidology -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2epimFF2un2Frplus9gZent5w== American Foundation for Suicide Prevention -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/FEUu0bQA19UxSaw3Wtfi0A== American Psychological Association -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/whnZxkEv3ftXIzAgq4Eknw== California Department of Education, Mental Health -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/U8ybLhoblslshezvvd8YxPBKw== California Department of Health Care Services, Mental Health Services -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/lhJ9lBnSx33gyv3jSdm7LQ== Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Mental Health -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zligm8LIDIJLplusGWxslshSbPEQ== National Association of School Psychologists -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2Pbs2elslshfyVi8hrLAnClslshQ== National Institute for Mental Health -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/IYEsleokeWiWcCFo92HqaA== American School Counselor Association -Website https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/R1ggYp24tGNHpluszwmaMrEvg== **Cross References Description** Comprehensive Safety Plan -0450 https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/8LA2y6JoWQ15Slk8twfS0A== Comprehensive Safety Plan -0450 https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/4zt29r1dK4P7uYSGeZWYZw== Media Relations -1112 https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/HHjE8H78leYTplusicHFcYA9Q== Citizen Advisory Committees -

1220

https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BQRPqTa1vQINwXYpslshoNp6Q==

	Citizen Advisory Committees -
1220	https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/643SDsamOEKacZdGfgiglw==
1240	Volunteer Assistance - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fq46CYMwLmN16Jmyvuvc9Q==
1240	Volunteer Assistance - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/plusJplusmL9fCCX1Re78g2R1ToA==
1400	Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ==" https:="" simbli.eboardsolutions.com="" su="" zmslshwlrl12skctjijoerevq='="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zMslshWLRL12SkctJijOErEVQ=="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/su/zmslshwider.co&lt;/td'></a>
3515	Campus Security - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/cypn1Gj30uQCPENSrl3wyg==
3515	Campus Security - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/e6iQbnxplTUmRglRsoslshk8w==
4121	Temporary/Substitute Personnel - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/I1AEKy31K2t7T0gjeVCxplusw==
4121-E PDF(1)	Temporary/Substitute Personnel - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/HE24BIcQZttDEX8dSMfC2w==
4127	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fF0NI5plusn6VW3574mrbpGxQ==
4127	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/NoUTslshlj507YVGt5slYQG7Q==
4131	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/0qew73bE96e5INzpj4EXLA==
4131	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/cZ6kVCZ4PEF7olf3u7PvDw==
4227	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/jBUgYuOFBoDuUbstslshaKpRg==
4227	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/rUiLF4H6iR0pxVbVioHTmw==
4231	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ickKzy9YP8AaXi8wRFRwJA==
4231	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/QH4lapEwq8Ing5XrYnygIQ==
4327	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/b9wDybhllvSngslshB5gf716A==
4327	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/LqSR4ZliTU6aO7bnlpQXbg==
4331	Staff Development - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/SoVi42Q6j3YjSR8x2zaUCw==
5125	Student Records - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/qYg5omThD8bYC3SoHO16fg==
5125	Student Records - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Xa2ghNQNhZRtmU6UznsmHw==
5131	Conduct - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/T0SEgbvqXwVhGqnBMqdCPA==
5131.2	Bullying - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/02M8qOlvppI7Qf6LgrR9Yw==
5131.2	Bullying - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/t6UJPWZcI9j16GkrhgocBw==
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Goe5TslshlggMzxvaUkzjdjzA==

5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/YSrbGZaGJ6c1mNzKppqslshwA==
5137	Positive School Climate - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/HYqz1t4EmoRXnpBTcBlplus9Q==
5138	Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/70GB2V6VsqcDuJq8rVKsmg==
5141	Health Care And Emergencies - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/X6ypa4wmzGplusMcokihDLO1Q==
5141	Health Care And Emergencies - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/jgqyi0RpxaqNsjEdXvHHbw==
5141.22	Infectious Diseases - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/f69jPFDQTj00plus4sB43plusdVA==
5141.22	Infectious Diseases - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/vdKRiOr0k5KMLncoxmGvZw==
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/W5R3jKch0dvp6NkdBg6iplusw==
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/btETYVVUEC29VS1SZukYHQ==
5141.6	School Health Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/bO5Sc33dtJdnDLe6KLYK3A==
5141.6	School Health Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/cee8MzbuK4slshVKGWo4vi85g==
5141.6-E PDF(1)	School Health Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Cslsh6heD7xdL0yM16pS107Sg==
5142	Safety - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/PIY2HNSvP24AKzXUQTpTwA==
5142	Safety - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/y7Lvu4bvRyWGaJvavHlpplusQ==
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/jOuQiEoPeWRcOneUezDbtA==
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/mOGznqpHooAhlBfhslshLt4nQ==
5145.7	Sexual Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Slavsv1MgLpFMZlb3ftSQQ==
5145.7	Sexual Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Fk2tOePr3MDUELGgVLJ3vw==
5145.9	Hate-Motivated Behavior - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/dCY6ce7ib4FFy74NIXFoSQ==
5148.2	Before/After School Programs - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/LWNjLxoGpuV24cep9sq52A==
5148.2	Before/After School Programs - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/XK7ULxzBitFlz53RVCqBwA==
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/m8Dz5u4slshzpS135bsvUgl0w==
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/h4rjcovZWVmuVbiGzq8hXQ==
6145.2	Athletic Competition - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/HplusZaiTUvMZn2QfcpcB5kaw==
6145.2	Athletic Competition - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ofqvzbGtBxHgEq4we34plusKw==

6145.8	Assemblies And Special Events - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/jJ9O954YR7Zr4K93NplusbsMw==
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/K62slsh56kjXhFsLhtPBGY0Jw==