

Bartlett City Board of Education		6054
Descriptor Term: STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION	Descriptor Code: Student Services	Issue Date: 08/25/2016
	Rescinds:	Revised:

1 The Board is committed to protecting the health and well-being of all students and understands
2 that physical, behavioral, and emotional health are integral components of student achievement.
3 Students are strongly encouraged to report if they, or a friend, are feeling suicidal or in need of
4 help. Such students will be provided information regarding The National Suicide Prevention
5 Lifeline – 1-800-273-8255 (TALK)

6 **PREVENTION¹**

7 All District employees shall attend either the annual in-service training in suicide prevention or
8 participate in other equivalent training approved by the Superintendent. The training shall include,
9 but not be limited to, identification of risk factors, warning signs, intervention and response
10 procedures, referrals, and postvention.

11 **INTERVENTION¹**

12 Any employee who has reason to believe that a student is at imminent risk of suicide shall report
13 such belief to the principal or school counselor. Belief that a student is at imminent risk of suicide
14 shall include, but not be limited to, the student verbalizing the desire to commit suicide, evidence
15 of self-harm, or a student self-refers.

16 Upon notification, the principal or counselor shall ensure the student is placed under adult
17 supervision. Emergency medical services shall be contacted immediately if an in-school suicide
18 attempt occurs. The principal or his/her designee shall contact the Superintendent or the Director
19 of Student Services as soon as practicable.

20 Prior to contacting the student’s parent/guardian, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall
21 determine if there could be further risk of harm resulting from parent/guardian notification. If
22 parent/guardian notification could result in further risk of harm or endanger the health or well-
23 being of the student, then local law enforcement and the Department of Children’s Services shall
24 be contacted.²

25 The Superintendent or his/her designee will seek parental permission to communicate with
26 outside mental health care providers regarding a student. If the student is under the age of 18
27 and the parent/guardian refuses to seek appropriate assistance, the Superintendent or designee
28 shall contact the Department of Children’s Services.²

¹ Public Acts of 2016, Chapter No. 623

² T.C.A. §37-1-403

1 The Superintendent or his/her designee shall document the contact with the parent/guardian by
2 recording:

- 3 1. The time and date of the contact;
- 4 2. The individual contacted;
- 5 3. The parent/guardian's response; and
- 6 4. Anticipated follow-up.

7 The Superintendent or his/her designee shall ensure the student is under adult supervision until
8 a parent/guardian or other authorized individual accepts responsibility for the student's safety.

9 Prior to a student returning to school, the Superintendent or his/her designee and/or the principal
10 shall meet with the student's parent/guardian, and student if appropriate. The parent/guardian
11 shall provide documentation from a mental health care provider stating that the student has
12 received care and is no longer a danger to themselves or others.

13 **POSTVENTION¹**

14 Immediately following a student suicide death, Student Services personnel and counseling staff
15 shall work with teachers to identify the students most likely to be impacted by the death in order
16 to provide additional assistance and counseling if needed. Additionally, staff and faculty will
17 immediately review suicide warning signs and reporting requirements. The Superintendent or
18 his/her designee shall be responsible for all media inquiries.