

When a Student Expresses Suicidal Thoughts at School

To be used by school counselors, school psychologist and school administrators. (Other staff should stay with or escort the student to get assistance from a school counselor, school psychologist, or administrator).

If a student communicates thoughts of suicide **always err on the side of caution:**

***Do Not leave the student alone.**

***Escort student to a secure location away from other students, where they can be monitored.**

***If you are not a school counselor or administrator, contact one at your site immediately.**

HIGH RISK



If risk is HIGH/Immediate threat of Self-Harm do the following:

- Do not leave student alone.
- Escort to a secure location where student can be monitored and away from other students.
- Notify administrator and call Law Enforcement.
- Confirm with Law Enforcement that they will be contacting parent.
- If Law Enforcement does not believe that risk is high, follow protocol for "Medium Risk"
- Do not send student home unless released to a parent or medical practitioner.
- Document date of risk assessment, person/agency contacted and resulting plan.
Send email to: Site Administration and Site Counselors with name of student, and date of screening.
- Follow Re-Entry Procedure & complete/implement School Safety Plan upon student's return

MEDIUM RISK



If risk is MEDIUM do the following:

- Notify administrator and either admin or counselor call parent/guardian
- Refer family to resources, consult with parent/guardian on options for counseling.
- Document date of risk assessment, person/agency contacted and resulting plan.
Send email to: Site Administration and Site Counselors with name of student, and date of screening.
- Follow Re-Entry Procedure, if student left school after incident, and complete a School Safety Plan.

LOW RISK



If risk is low, CONSIDER the following:

- Notify admin and either admin or counselor call parent/guardian
 - Refer family to resources
 - Complete Safety Plan if necessary.
- ### **SAFETY PLAN**
- Collaboratively complete Safety Plan with student or student's medical provider.
 - Notify teachers/staff of plan using Instructions for Teachers form— include causes, warning signs and coping strategies on the form or in an email.
 - Inform parent/guardian of plan, and review plan periodically.