

209 – SUICIDE PREVENTION AND TRAINING POLICY

- I. Purpose:
 - A. The Bryan Allen Stevenson School of Excellence (BASSE) recognizes the serious problem of youth suicide and acknowledges that providing this policy for all schools and districts in Delaware and nationally is of utmost importance. BASSE also acknowledges that youth suicide is a complex issue that cannot be addressed by the districts and schools alone. Parent/caregiver and community education must play an important role in the prevention of youth suicide. The BASSE Suicide Prevention and Training Policy meets the requirements of 14 Del. C. §4124, relative to Youth Suicide Prevention.
- II. Policy Statement:
 - A. Each employee of BASSE shall participate in at least one combined training each year totaling at least ninety (90) minutes in suicide prevention. The training materials shall be evidence-based and approved by the Delaware Department of Education, Department of Health and Social Services, and the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families. Any in-service training required by this section shall be provided within the contracted school year as provided in 14 Del. C. §1305(e). All BASSE employees shall provide evidence or proof of participation and completion of this training.
- III. Responsibility:
 - A. BASSE shall develop a Suicide Prevention Program and the components of the BASSE Suicide Prevention Program may vary to address the needs of different grade levels. A Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the BASSE Suicide Prevention Program.
 - B. Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee - BASSE shall establish a committee that is responsible for coordinating the Suicide Prevention Program within the school and offer training to parents and community members throughout the year.
The Committee shall:
 - 1. Hold regular meetings.
 - 2. Coordinate any required staff training. The Committee may determine whether additional training is required for the school community or the community at large.
 - 3. Create and maintain a training log (either paper or electronic) to record that all staff have completed the training, as well as the specific training they received.
- IV. Other Requirements:
 - A. Procedures for the confidential and anonymous reporting of warning signs of suicide – BASSE’s Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee shall determine the process it will use to provide for confidential and anonymous reporting of a student demonstrating the warning signs of suicide. The document outlining the process will be maintained by the Head of School or a staff member designated by the Head of School. At a minimum, any privacy regulations shall be followed, including any applicable Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Health Insurance Portability

and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provisions.

- B. Procedures for communication between school staff members and medical professionals who are involved in treating students for suicide issues – The BASSE Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee shall determine the process it will use to provide for communication between school staff members and medical professionals (e.g. nurses, counselors, physicians) who are involved in treating students for suicide issues. The document outlining the process will be maintained by the Head of School or a staff member designated by the Head of School. At a minimum, any privacy rules shall be followed, including any applicable Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provisions.
- C. Posting of the Suicide Prevention Policy – BASSE shall post this Suicide Prevention Policy in all student and staff handbook(s) and on the BASSE website.
- D. Retaliation Restrictions – No employee, school volunteer or student shall be retaliated against for reporting a student thought to be demonstrating the warning signs of suicide.

Related Policies:

- A. xxx

Related Procedures and Documents:

- A. xxx

Approval: 07/11/2024

Revision Dates:

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