Lancaster Community School District

Students

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Student affect is an important ingredient in academic success or failure. Social-emotional problems occupy time and energy needed in studying. The Lancaster Community School District is responsible for the social-emotional health of its students, as well as their academic well-being; therefore, it shall deal with the students in a holistic manner.

Death by suicide in the youth population is a growing mental health, medical and educational problem. Educators must be proactive in protecting young people from the increasing threat of depression and suicide. A young person with good self-esteem will be able to handle his/her problems without severe depression and attempts at suicide. In the holistic care of our students, in addition to promoting good self-esteem, it is important to have basic knowledge for helping someone who is severely depressed, who is angry enough to talk about suicide, or who is attempting suicide.

It is the District's policy to:

- establish a procedure on suicide prevention that clearly defines the school's role;
- establish written agreements with appropriate community agencies for emergency services;
- provide in-service training for the staff;
- provide students with information relevant to suicide and suicide prevention;
- provide, through the curriculum, ways for students to deal with self-esteem, solve problems, and make effective decisions; and
- establish procedures for handling attempted suicides, students talking about attempting suicide, and suicide postvention.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 118.01(2)(d)7 Wisconsin Statutes
118.295

CORSS REF.: Crisis Prevention Plan

APPROVED: January 10, 1990

REVISED: April 13, 2005