

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**POLICY 270  
PROGRAM**

**SUICIDE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND POSTVENTION**

Suicide, which is the third leading cause of death among youth ages 10-19, has a tremendous and traumatic impact on surviving family members, friends, and the community at large. Suicide generally does not materialize in isolation; it is often associated with an undiagnosed mental illness, such as depression. Other risk factors may include, but are not limited to, alcohol or substance abuse, victimization by peers, feelings of hopelessness, history of trauma or abuse, or the loss of a relationship. Suicide risk also may be affected by stressful life circumstances, dysfunctional family behaviors and conflict, bullying, school failures and trouble with the law. Approximately one out of 15 high school students attempt suicide each year.

The Board of Trustees of the Carson City School District acknowledges the following principles:

1. Physical, behavioral, and emotional health are integral components of a student's educational outcomes;
2. Suicide is a leading cause of death among young people;
3. Schools have an ethical responsibility to take a proactive approach in seeking to prevent deaths by suicide; and
4. Schools have a role in providing safe and supportive environments that foster positive development by being sensitive to individual and societal factors that place youth at greater risk for suicide.

Therefore, in order to help promote the safety and welfare of students, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop a regulation which establishes procedures to help prevent, assess the risk of, intervene in, and respond to suicide.

This regulation will be periodically reviewed by staff and shall provide for periodic professional development for District staff and personnel.

Adopted: March 28, 2017