Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education Executive Director, Grants Policy JLDBA Adopted April, 2009

Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention Crisis Response

The Board of Education recognizes suicide is a major cause of death among young people. Therefore, the Board directs the Superintendent to initiate and continue appropriate awareness and prevention programs in the District to the extent practical.

The Superintendent shall establish a continuing cooperative relationship with local mental health agencies and others to supplement District resources and provide additional expertise to carry out such programs.

School staff, students and parents/guardians can also contribute significantly toward the prevention of child and adolescent suicide. Therefore, the Superintendent shall consider each of these segments of the school community when developing the District's programs.

The Board directs that the programs developed include information that shall help school staff, parents/guardians and students to:

- 1. Understand the developmental stages of adolescence.
- 2. Understand how feelings of depression and despair can lead to suicide.
- 3. Recognize the early warning signs of suicide.
- 4. Learn how to help in a suicidal crisis.
- 5. Identify community resources where students/parents can get help.
- 6. Address the impact of such a tragedy.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop administrative procedures to guide staff members in providing intervention and assistance to students threatening or attempting suicide.

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. § 22-60.5-110(3)(b)

C.R.S. § 13-21-108(1) C.R.S. § 22-32-110(1)(bb) C.R.S. § 24-10-106.5

Cross Ref: IHAM, Health Education KDE, Crisis Management

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