

## Suicidal Ideations/Intentions at School

1. Student talks about having suicidal thoughts or intentions.
2. Let administration know.
3. They will call upon an ASIST trained staff member to do a Suicide/Risk Assessment. Ensure your staff members are aware of who is trained on your staff. A list of ASIST trained staff is kept on the WRPS website. We attempt to keep this list up to date but please ensure you have your own list of certified members of your staff. Certification is valid for 2 years before updated training is required. Historically, Mike and Renee offer 2 trainings a year to WRPS employees (1 training is held in the DV area and the other is held in the RMH area)
4. If they need further support or assistance they can contact **Mike Schoenthal** 780 542 0937 or **Renee Joslin** 780 898 6967 (ASIST trainers). If a School Counsellor (ASIST certified) is available in your school that day you can seek support from them BUT they cannot take over the Suicide/Risk Assessment from the person who is interviewing the student. The person conducting the assessment is obligated to follow through on the entire process to eliminate the possibility that the student at risk feels abandoned or invalidated.
5. This is never kept a secret...remember that letting others know is in the best interest of the child. Even if the student begs you not to tell...**YOU MUST**. They wouldn't tell you about their thoughts, feelings or plan if they didn't want help. Call the student's parents/guardians.
6. F.Y.I. \*\*\*\*\*Even if this comes to the attention of a School Counsellor it is reported as it falls within the Limits of Confidentiality that the parents and students are made aware of during the counselling process and upon the Counsellor opening the file.
7. Ensure that staff members who interact with the student on a regular basis are made aware so they can help monitor the student's behaviour. This information is sensitive and should not become public knowledge. Telling staff members involved with this child is solely done to ensure the student is carefully monitored. Please treat this information with the utmost respect and confidentiality.
8. If the student is deemed to be at risk the choices are:
  - The **parents/guardians** take their child to the hospital to meet with a Mental Health Intake Worker/Liaison OR make an appointment immediately with a Mental Health Professional
  - If **parents/guardians** are unwilling or unavailable contact your school's School Resource Officer (RCMP) and request the student be transported to the hospital under the Mental Health Act if the student is actively suicidal ( will learn this from the assessment done by your ASIST trained staff member)
  - If **parents are unwilling** to see this as a risk you are still obligated to keep the child safe (see above) and also to call Child and Family Services to make them aware that the parents are unwilling to keep their child safe.

9. Follow up support such as Counselling, Family Wellness Support or numbers for private practitioners should be offered/provided to the student and their family to monitor their risk of suicide. We need to do our part but also, share the responsibility for keeping this student safe and realize that we can't monitor the student 24 hours a day.

For further information contact Mike 780 542 0937(work cell) or Renee 780 898 6967 (work cell) 780 542 5535 (Evergreen- office).