



Board of Education

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

RESOLUTION NO. 21-22/08

Recognizing Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults in the U.S. and the 2nd leading cause of death among people aged 10-34; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, each year more than 47,500 individuals die by suicide, leaving behind thousands of friends and family members to navigate the tragedy of their loss; and

WHEREAS, suicide rates increased from 1999 through 2017 for both males and females and for all ages 10–85; and

WHEREAS, on average, there are 123 suicides per day, with 5,240 attempts by children in grade 7-12; and

WHEREAS, four out of five teens who attempt suicide have given clear warning signs; and

WHEREAS, studies show that at least 90% of teens who kill themselves have some type of mental health problem, such as depression, anxiety, drug or alcohol abuse, or a behavior problem.

WHEREAS, suicide prevention strategies shall include, but not be limited to, efforts to promote a positive school climate that enhances students' feelings of connectedness with the school and is characterized by caring staff and harmonious interrelationships among students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Superintendent or designee shall involve school health professionals, school counselors, administrators, other staff, parents/guardians, students, local health agencies and professionals, and community organizations in planning, implementing, and evaluating the district's strategies for suicide prevention and intervention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the District's instructional and student support program shall promote the healthy mental, emotional, and social development of students including, but not limited to, the development of problem-solving skills, coping skills, and resilience.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Superintendent or designee may offer parents/guardians education or information which describes the severity of the youth suicide problem, the district's suicide prevention efforts, risk factors and warning signs of suicide, basic steps for helping suicidal youth, reducing the stigma of mental illness, and/or school and community resources that can help youth in crisis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT suicide prevention training for staff shall be designed to help staff identify and find help for students at risk of suicide. The training shall be offered under the direction of district staff and/or in cooperation with one or more community mental health agencies and may include information on:

1. Research identifying risk factors, such as previous suicide attempt(s), history of depression or mental illness, substance use problems, family history of suicide or violence, feelings of isolation, interpersonal conflicts, a recent severe stressor or loss, family instability, and other factors.
2. Warning signs that may indicate suicidal intentions, including changes in students' appearance, personality, or behavior.
3. School and community resources and services for students and families in crisis and ways to access them.
4. District procedures for intervening when a student attempts, threatens, or discloses the desire to die by suicide.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Lynwood Unified School District acknowledges the month of September as the Suicide Prevention Month and September 10 as Suicide Prevention Day and encourages administrators, teachers, all support staff, parents, students, and all other citizens to join the campaign in making suicide prevention a high priority in the community.

Passed and adopted by the Governing Board of the Lynwood Unified School District on September 9, 2021.

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