

Alloway Township Board of Education District Policy Manual

Students

Series 5000

Adolescent Suicide Awareness & Prevention Programs

Policy 5135

Date Adopted: September 8, 1988 Date Revised: October 22, 2002,
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Suicide or Sudden Death

The Board of Education recognizes that the rate of self-destructive behavior is increasing among children and adolescents in this country. Pupils who experience depression are unable to benefit fully from the educational program of the school. Moreover, a pupil who attempts suicide poses a danger both to self and possibly to others.

Therefore, the Board of Education directs that all school personnel should be alert to the warning signs of childhood and adolescent suicide and the procedures to follow in the event of an actual attempt or completion. Such signs and behavior shall be taken seriously and reported to the school administration and Child Study Team who shall determine what further action is required. Other district employees may be used to intervene or assist with such situations. If emergency intervention is required, the pupil shall be taken to the appropriate medical facility.

In incidents of such potential self-destructive behavior, the pupil's parents shall be notified immediately and their cooperation shall be sought for immediate intervention. If the parent is unwilling to cooperate, the school administration and/or Child Study Team shall contact appropriate agencies to request intervention on the pupil's behalf. In cases of child abuse or neglect, school personnel are required to contact the New Jersey Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P).

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop procedures to implement this policy.

Legal References

NJSA 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties
30:9A-12 Youth suicide prevention program