Suicide Postvention Protocol Chart
For Schools

Suicide on site

Immediately contact police (911) and top administration

Secure the area
- Do not move the body or disturb evidence
- Keep others away
- Document names of witnesses

Administrator notifies family, guardian or next of kin

Administrator notifies staff

Suicide off site

Administrator verifies information

Administrator notifies staff

Respect/protect confidentiality

Secure the chart/file

Support the Staff
- Schedule time for debriefing (call local crisis agency, consider using a crisis debriefing team)
- Review postvention protocols and how to deal with students
- Provide information on counseling services
- Give time off
- Continue to check in, offer support and debrief and evaluate

Notify and Support Other Students
- Briefly state relevant publicly known facts, allow questions, discussion, without breaking confidentiality
- Identify and monitor those who may be particularly vulnerable
- Review self-care skills and help-seeking behavior

Direct media or outside inquiries to top administrator(s)

Document Actions Taken

Communicate with all Parents
- Briefly state relevant publically known facts
- Provide information on memorial service
- Provide fact sheets on grief and local resources for additional help
- Provide information on the school's response and policies

Contact with Family
- Review existing protocol and then consult with your administrator