Pulaski Community School District Administrative Procedures	Policy Reference: JP Rule Code: JP-ADM Date: January 27, 2016

Suicide/Sudden Death Prevention and Education

The Pulaski Community School District recognizes the need to protect the health and well-being of all district students by having procedures in place to prevent, assess the risk of, intervene in, and respond to suicide. The following action steps will be taken by the administration:

District Policy Implementation: A trauma response coordinator shall be designated by the Superintendent. The trauma response coordinator will be responsible for planning and coordinating implementation of policy for the school district. Each school shall designate a student services staff member to act as a point of contact in each school for issues relating to suicide prevention and policy implementation. **All staff members** shall report students they believe to be at elevated risk for suicide to school student services staff who have training in procedures for further action.

Staff Professional Development: All staff will receive annual professional development on risk factors, warning signs, protective factors, response procedures, referrals, and resources regarding suicide prevention. Additional professional development in risk assessment and crisis intervention will be provided to student services staff members from each school.

Youth Suicide Prevention Programming: Developmentally-appropriate, student-centered education materials will be integrated into the curriculum through health classes and a comprehensive school counseling program. The content of these age-appropriate materials will include:

- knowing, understanding, and accepting oneself and others,
- applying self-knowledge and decision making or goal setting processes,
- the importance of safe and healthy choices and coping strategies,
- how to recognize risk factors and warning signs of mental disorders and suicide in oneself and others,
- help-seeking strategies for oneself or others, including how to engage school resources and refer friends for help.

In addition, student services staff may provide supplemental small group/individual suicide prevention programming for students.

Outside Referral and Parent Notification: When any staff member identifies a student as being in crisis or potentially suicidal, student services staff and/or administration will be immediately notified. These staff members will work with parents and outside resources with the students health and well being as the sole focus. If a student is unable to attend school for a period of time alternative programming options will be considered based on the appropriateness for the individual student.

For students returning to school after a mental health crisis the school will coordinate a re-entry meeting with the student (if appropriate), parent/guardian and other relevant personnel. As a team, they will determine appropriate measures to assist the student in being safe and successful while at school.

Response to Suicide: School board policy EBC, Critical Incident and Crisis Plan and the supporting procedures shall address the response to suicide. The District Trauma Response Coordinator shall oversee the review, update, administration of relevant training and will ensure implementation of this plan.

Cross Ref.: JP- Suicide/Sudden Death Prevention and Education
EBC- Critical Incident and Crisis Plan
Wisconsin Statute: 115.365

Adopted: January 27, 2016