

516 SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

Sussex Academy (hereinafter referred to as “Charter School”) recognizes the serious problem of youth suicide and acknowledges that providing this policy for schools and districts related to youth suicide recognition and prevention is very important. The Charter School also acknowledges that youth suicide is a complex issue which cannot be addressed by the districts and schools alone. This Suicide Prevention Policy (“Policy”) meets the requirements of 14 **Del. C.** §4124, relative to Suicide Prevention.

Suicide Prevention Training For Public School Employees

Each public school employee of the Charter School shall participate in at least one combined training each year totaling at least ninety (90) minutes in suicide prevention. The training materials shall be evidence-based and approved by the Department of Education, Department of Health and Social Services, and the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families. Any in-service training required by this section shall be provided within the contracted school year as provided in 14 **Del. C.** §1305(e). All public school employees shall provide evidence or proof of participation and completion.

Suicide Prevention Program

The Charter School shall develop a Suicide Prevention Program. The components of the Charter School’s Suicide Prevention Program may vary to address the needs of different grade levels. The Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the Suicide Prevention Program.

Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee

Each school shall establish a committee that is responsible for coordinating the Suicide Prevention Program within that school.

The Committee shall:

1. Hold regular meetings.
2. Coordinate any required staff training. The Committee may determine additional training is required for its school.
3. Create and maintain a training log (either paper or electronic) to record that all appropriate staff have been trained, as well as the specific training they received.

Other Requirements

A. Procedure for the confidential and anonymous reporting of warning signs of suicide.

Each school’s Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee shall determine the process it will use to provide for confidential and anonymous reporting of a student demonstrating the warning signs of suicide. The document outlining the process will be maintained by the Director or a staff member designated by the

Director. At a minimum, any privacy rules shall be followed, including any applicable Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provisions.

B. Procedure for communication between school staff members and medical professional who are involved in treating students for suicide issues.

Each school's Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee shall determine the process it will use to provide for communication between school staff members and medical professionals (e.g. nurses, counselors, physicians) who are involved in treating students for suicide issues. The document outlining the process will be maintained by the Director or a staff member designated by the Director. At a minimum, any privacy rules shall be followed, including any applicable Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provisions.

C. Posting of the Suicide Prevention Policy

The Charter School shall post this Suicide Prevention Policy in all student and staff handbook(s) and on the Charter School's website.

D. Retaliation Restrictions

No employee, school volunteer or student shall be retaliated against for reporting a student thought to be demonstrating the warning signs of suicide.

Date Approved:	Date(s) Amended:
7/27/16	