

COTATI-ROHNERT PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SUICIDE PREVENTION PLAN



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CRPUSD Suicide Prevention Program

Purpose

The purpose of this suicide prevention program is 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 district:

- (a) recognizes that physical, behavioral, and emotional health is an integral component of a student's educational outcomes,
- (b) further recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among young people,
- (c) has an ethical responsibility to take a proactive approach in preventing deaths by suicide, and
- (d) acknowledges the school's role in providing an environment which is sensitive to individual and societal factors that place youth at greater risk for suicide and one which helps to foster positive youth development,
- (e) and further acknowledges that all people are at risk at some point in their lives, due to life circumstances.

Toward this end, the program is meant to be paired with other policies supporting the emotional and behavioral health of students more broadly. Specifically, this program is meant to be applied in accordance with the district's Child Find obligations.

Parental Involvement

Parents and guardians play a key role in youth suicide prevention, and it is important for the school district to involve them in suicide prevention efforts. Parents/guardians need to be informed and actively involved in decisions regarding their child's welfare. Parents and guardians who learn the warning signs and risk factors for suicide are better equipped to connect their children with professional help when necessary. Parents/guardians should be advised to take every statement regarding suicide and wish to die seriously and avoid assuming that a child is simply seeking attention.

Parents and guardians can also contribute to important protective factors – conditions that reduce vulnerability to suicidal behavior – for vulnerable youth populations such as LGBTQ youth. Research from the Family Acceptance Project found that gay and transgender youth who reported being rejected by their parents or guardians were more than eight times as likely to have attempted suicide. Conversely, feeling accepted by parents or guardians is a critical protective factor for LGBTQ youth and other vulnerable youth populations. Educators can help to protect LGBTQ youth by ensuring that parents and guardians have resources about family acceptance and the essential role it plays in youth health.

Scope

This program covers actions that take place in the school, on school property, at school-sponsored functions and activities, on school buses or vehicles and at bus stops, and at school sponsored out-of-school events where school staff are present. This policy applies to the entire school community, including educators, school and district staff, students, parents/guardians, and volunteers. This policy will also cover appropriate school responses to suicidal or high risk behaviors that take place outside of the school environment.

Importance of School-Based Mental Health Supports

Access to school-based mental health services and supports directly improves students' physical and psychological safety, academic performance, cognitive performance and learning, and social—emotional development. School based mental health professionals and organizations, such as (SOS, CPI, Project Success, school counselors, school psychologists, school based mental health professionals, school therapists, school social workers, and in some cases, school nurses) ensure that services are high quality, effective, and appropriate to the school context. School based

mental health professionals are specially trained in the interconnectivity among school law, school system functioning, learning, mental health, and family systems. This training ensures that mental health services are properly and effectively infused into the learning environment. These professionals can support both instructional leaders' and teachers' abilities to provide a safe school setting and the optimum conditions for teaching and learning.

Having these professionals as integrated members of the school staff empowers principals to more efficiently and effectively deploy resources, ensure coordination of services, evaluate their effectiveness, and adjust supports to meet the dynamic needs of their student populations. Improving access also allows for enhanced collaboration with community providers to meet the more intense or clinical needs of students.

Risk Factors & Protective Factors

Risk Factors for Suicide are characteristics or conditions that increase the chance that a person may try to take her or his life. Suicide risk tends to be highest when someone has several risk factors at the same time.

The most frequently cited risk factors for suicide are:

- Previous suicide attempt or family history of a suicide attempt or mental disorder
- Prior mental health issues
- Major depression (feeling down in a way that impacts your daily life) or bipolar disorder (severe mood swings)
- Problems with alcohol or drugs
- Unusual thoughts and behavior or confusion about reality
- Personality traits that create a pattern of intense, unstable relationships or trouble with the law
- Impulsivity and aggression, especially along with a mental disorder
- Serious medical condition and/or pain

Some common warning signs for suicide are:

- Suicide notes
- Direct and indirect threats
- Feeling hopeless and helpless
- Dwindling academic performance
- · Abrupt changes in attendance
- Lack of interest and withdrawal
- Changes in relationships
- Despairing attitude
- Social withdrawal and isolation
- Lost involvement in interests and activities
- Talking about death
- Reading, writing and/or art about death
- Increased risk taking
- Heavy use of alcohol and drugs
- Giving away prized possessions
- Changes in appearance, weight and appetite
- Sudden changes in personality
- Inability to concentrate / think rationally
- Sleeplessness or sleepiness
- Low self esteem

It is important to bear in mind that the large majority of people with mental disorders or other suicide risk factors do not engage in suicidal behavior.

Protective Factors for Suicide are characteristics or conditions that may help to decrease a person's suicide risk. While these factors do not eliminate the possibility of suicide, especially in someone with risk factors, they may help to reduce that risk. Protective factors for suicide have not been studied as thoroughly as risk factors, so less is known about them.

Protective Factors for Suicide Include:

- Receiving professional mental health care
- Positive connections to family, peers, community, school, trusted adults, and spiritual institutions that foster resilience
- The skills and ability to solve problems
- Reminding youth that suicide is permanent

Note that protective factors do not entirely remove risk, especially when there is a personal or family history of depression or other mental disorders.

It is important for schools to be aware of student populations that are at elevated risk for suicidal behavior based on various factors:

1. Youth living with mental and/or substance use disorders (*These conditions may be undiagnosed***).** While the large majority of people with mental disorders do not engage in suicidal behavior, people with mental disorders account for more than 90 percent of deaths by suicide. Mental disorders, in particular depression or bi-polar (manic-depressive) disorder, alcohol or substance abuse, schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, borderline personality disorder, conduct disorders, and anxiety disorders are important risk factors for suicidal behavior among young people. The majority of people suffering from these mental disorders are not engaged in treatment, therefore school staff may play a pivotal role in recognizing and referring the student to treatment that may reduce risk.

2. Experiencing trauma and high levels of adverse childhood experiences.

Students who experience adverse childhood experiences are at greater risk of suicide. Events like divorce, assault, sexual assault, battery, are just a few examples of adverse experiences that place students at increased risk.

- **3. Youth who engage in self-harm or have attempted suicide**. Suicide risk among those who engage in self-harm is significantly higher than the general population. Whether or not they report suicidal intent, people who engage in self-harm are at elevated risk for dying by suicide within 10 years. Additionally, a previous suicide attempt is a known predictor of suicide death. Many adolescents who have attempted suicide do not receive necessary follow up care.
- **4. Youth in out-of-home settings.** Youth involved in the juvenile justice or child welfare systems have a high prevalence of many risk factors for suicide. Young people involved in the juvenile justice system die by suicide at a rate about four times greater than the rate among youth in the general population. Though comprehensive suicide data on youth in foster care does not exist, one researcher found that youth in foster care were more than twice as likely to have considered suicide and almost four times more likely to have attempted suicide than their peers not in foster care.
- **5. Youth experiencing homelessness.** For youth experiencing homelessness, rates of suicide attempts are higher than those of the adolescent population in general. These young people also have higher rates of mood disorders, conduct disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder. One study found that more than half of runaway and homeless youth have had some kind of suicidal ideation.
- **6.** American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth. In 2009, the rate of suicide among AI/AN youth ages 15-19 was more than twice that of the general youth population. Risk factors that can affect this group include substance use, discrimination, lack of access to mental health care, and historical trauma. For more information about historical trauma and how it can affect AI/AN youth, see http://www.nctsnet.org/nctsn assets/pdfs/AI Youth-CurrentandHistoricalTrauma.pdf.

- **7. LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning) youth.** The CDC finds that LGB youth are four times more likely, and questioning youth are three times more likely, to attempt suicide as their straight peers. The American Association of Suicidology reports that nearly half of young transgender people have seriously considered taking their lives and one quarter report having made a suicide attempt. Suicidal behavior among LGBTQ youth can be related to experiences of discrimination, family rejection, harassment, bullying, violence, and victimization. For those youth with baseline risk for suicide (especially those with a mental disorder), these experiences can place them at increased risk. It is these societal factors, in concert with other individual factors such as mental health history, and not the fact of being LGBTQ which elevate the risk of suicidal behavior for LGBTQ youth.
- **8. Youth bereaved by suicide**. Studies show that those who have experienced suicide loss, through the death of a friend or loved one, are at increased risk for suicide themselves.
- **9. Youth living with medical conditions and disabilities.** A number of physical conditions are associated with an elevated risk for suicidal behavior. Some of these conditions include chronic pain, loss of mobility, disfigurement, cognitive styles that make problem-solving a challenge, and other chronic limitations. Adolescents with asthma are more likely to report suicidal ideation and behavior than those without asthma. Additionally, studies show that suicide rates are significantly higher among people with certain types of disabilities, such as those with multiple sclerosis or spinal cord injuries.

Prevention

- 1. District Policy Implementation A district level suicide prevention coordinator shall be designated by the Superintendent. The district suicide prevention coordinator will be responsible for planning and coordinating implementation of this plan for the school district. Each school principal shall designate a school suicide prevention coordinator to act as a point of contact in each school for issues relating to suicide prevention and policy implementation. In most cases the site coordinator will be the Principal. This may also be an existing staff person appointed by the Principal. All staff members shall report students they believe to be at elevated risk for suicide to the school suicide prevention coordinator.
- **2. Staff Professional Development** All staff will receive annual professional development on risk factors, warning signs, protective factors, response procedures, referrals, postvention, and resources regarding youth suicide prevention. The professional development will include additional information regarding groups of students at elevated risk for suicide, including those living with mental and/or substance use disorders, those who engage in self-harm or have attempted suicide, those in out-of-home settings, those experiencing homelessness, American Indian/Alaska Native students, LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning) students, students bereaved by suicide, and those with medical conditions or certain types of disabilities. Additional professional development in risk assessment and crisis intervention will be provided to school employed mental health professionals and school nurses.
- **3. Youth Suicide Prevention Programming** Developmentally-appropriate, student-centered education materials will be integrated into the curriculum of K-12 classes. The content of these age-appropriate materials will include:
 - 1) the importance of safe and healthy choices and coping strategies,
 - 2) how to recognize risk factors and warning signs of mental disorders and suicide in oneself and others,
 - 3) help-seeking strategies for oneself or others, including how to engage school resources and refer friends for help. In addition, schools may provide supplemental small-group suicide prevention programming for students.

4. Publication and Distribution

• Links to this program will be updated annually and included in all student handbooks and on the school and district websites.

REFERRALS AND LGBTQ YOUNG PEOPLE

LGBTQ youth are at heightened risk for suicidal behavior, which may be related to experiences of discrimination, family rejection, harassment, bullying, violence, and victimization. It is therefore especially important that school staff be trained to support at risk LGBTQ youth with sensitivity and cultural competency. School staff should not make assumptions about a student's sexual orientation or gender identity and affirm students who do decide to disclose this information. Information about a student's sexual orientation or gender identity should be treated as confidential and not disclosed to parents, guardians, or third parties without the student's permission. Additionally, when referring students to out-of-school resources, it is important to connect LGBTQ students with LGBTQ-affirming local health and mental health service providers. Affirming service providers are those which adhere to best practices guidelines regarding working with LGBTQ clients as specified by their professional association (e.g., http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbt/resources/guidelines.aspx).

Assessment and Referral

When a student is identified by a staff person as potentially suicidal, i.e., verbalizes about suicide, presents overt risk factors such as agitation or intoxication, the act of self-harm occurs, or a student self-refers, the student will be seen by a school employed mental health professional within the same school day to assess risk and facilitate referral. If there is no mental health professional available, a school nurse or administrator will fill this role until a mental health professional can be brought in.

For youth at risk:

- 1. School staff will continuously supervise the student to ensure their safety.
- 2. The principal and school suicide prevention coordinator will be made aware of the situation as soon as reasonably possible.
- 3. The school based mental health professional or principal will contact the student's parent or guardian, as described in the Parental Notification and Involvement section, and will assist the family with an urgent care referral. When appropriate, this may include calling emergency services or bringing the student to the local Emergency Department, but in most cases will involve setting up an outpatient mental health or primary care appointment and communicating the reason for referral to the healthcare provider.
- 4. Staff will ask the student's parent or guardian for written permission to discuss the student's health with outside care, if appropriate.

In-School Suicide Attempts

In the case of an in-school suicide attempt, the health and safety of the student is paramount. In these situations:

- 1. First aid will be rendered until professional medical treatment and/or transportation can be received, following district emergency medical procedures.
- 2. School staff will supervise the student to ensure their safety.
- 3. Staff will move all other students out of the immediate area as soon as possible.
- 4. If appropriate, staff will immediately request a mental health assessment for the youth.
- 5. The school employed mental health professional or principal will contact the student's parent or guardian, as described in the Parental Notification and Involvement section.
- 6. All staff will immediately notify the principal or school suicide prevention coordinator regarding in-school suicide attempts.
- 7. The school will engage as necessary the crisis team to assess whether additional steps should be taken to ensure student safety and well-being.

Out of School Suicide Attempts

If a staff member becomes aware of a suicide threat or attempt by a student that is in progress in an out-of-school location, the staff member will:

- 1. Call the police and/or emergency medical services, such as 911.
- 2. Inform the student's parent or guardian.
- 3. Encourage the parent to take the student to a crisis intervention center.
- 4. Inform the school suicide prevention coordinator and principal.

If the student contacts the staff member and expresses suicidal ideation, the staff member should maintain contact with the student (either in person, online, or on the phone). The staff member should then enlist the assistance of another person to contact the police while maintaining verbal engagement with the student.

Parental Notification and Involvement

In situations where a student is assessed at risk for suicide or has made a suicide attempt, the student's parent or guardian will be informed as soon as practicable by the principal, designee, or mental health professional. If the student has exhibited any kind of suicidal behavior, the parent or guardian should be counseled on "means restriction," limiting the child's access to mechanisms for carrying out a suicide attempt. Staff will also seek parental permission to communicate with outside mental health care providers regarding their child.

Through discussion with the student, the principal or school based mental health professional will assess whether there is further risk of harm due to parent or guardian notification. If the principal, designee, or mental health professional believes, in their professional capacity, that contacting the parent or guardian would endanger the health or well-being of the student, they may delay such contact as appropriate. If contact is delayed, the reasons for the delay should be documented.

Re-Entry Procedures

For students returning to school after a mental health crisis (e.g., suicide attempt or psychiatric hospitalization), a school based mental health professional, the principal, or designee will meet with the student's parent or guardian, and if appropriate, meet with the student to discuss re-entry and appropriate next steps to ensure the student's readiness for return to school.

- 1. A school based mental health professional or other designee will be identified to coordinate with the student, their parent or guardian, and any outside mental health care providers.
- 2. The parent or guardian will provide documentation from a mental health care provider that the student has undergone examination and that they are no longer a danger to themselves or others.
- 3. The parent will complete the site's re-entry form and share information with the site that is pertinent for the student to successfully reintegrate back into the school.
- 4. The designated staff person will periodically check in with student to help the student readjust to the school community and address any ongoing concerns.

Postvention / Crisis Response - After Death by Suicide

1. Development and Implementation of an Action Plan. The crisis team will develop an action plan to guide school response following a death by suicide. A meeting of the crisis team to implement the action plan should take place immediately following news of the suicide death. The action plan may include the following steps:

- a) Verify the death. Staff will confirm the death and determine the cause of death through communication with a coroner's office, local hospital, the student's parent or guardian, or police department. Even when a case is perceived as being an obvious instance of suicide, it should not be labeled as such until after a cause of death ruling has been made. If the cause of death has been confirmed as suicide but the parent or guardian will not permit the cause of death to be disclosed, the school will not share the cause of death but will use the opportunity to discuss suicide prevention with students.
- **b)** Assess the situation. The crisis team will meet to prepare the postvention response, to consider how severely the death is likely to affect other students, and to determine which students are most likely to be affected. The crisis team will also consider how recently other traumatic events have occurred within the school community and the time of year of the suicide. If the death occurred during a school vacation, the need for or scale of postvention activities may be reduced.
- c) Share information. Before the death is officially classified as a suicide by the coroner's office, the death can and should be reported to staff, students, and parents/guardians with an acknowledgement that its cause is unknown. Inform the faculty that a sudden death has occurred, preferably in a staff meeting. Write a statement for staff members to share with students. The statement should include the basic facts of the death and known funeral arrangements (without providing details of the suicide method), recognition of the sorrow the news will cause, and information about the resources available to help students cope with their grief. Public address system announcements and school-wide assemblies should be avoided. The crisis team may prepare a letter (with the input and permission from the student's parent or guardian) to send home with students that includes facts about the death, information about what the school is doing to support students, the warning signs of suicidal behavior, and a list of resources available.
- **d) Avoid suicide contagion**. It should be explained in the staff meeting described above that one purpose of trying to identify and give services to other high risk students is to prevent another death. The crisis team will work with teachers to identify students who are most likely to be significantly affected by the death. In the staff meeting, the crisis team will review suicide warning signs and procedures for reporting students who generate concern.
- e) Initiate support services. Students identified as being more likely to be affected by the death may be assessed by a school based mental health professionals and/or school counselors to determine the level of support needed. The crisis team will coordinate support services for students and staff in need of individual and small group counseling as needed. In concert with parents or guardians, crisis team members will refer to community mental healthcare providers to ensure a smooth transition from the crisis intervention phase to meeting underlying or ongoing mental health needs.
- **f) Develop memorial plans**. The school should not create on-campus physical memorials (e.g. photos, flowers), funeral services, or fly the flag at half-mast because it may sensationalize the death and encourage suicide contagion. School should not be canceled for the funeral. Any school-based memorials (e.g., small gatherings) will include a focus on how to prevent future suicides and prevention resources available. Any school based memorial should be a living memorial, such as making donations to a local crisis center, participating in an event that raises awareness about suicide prevention, or providing other opportunities for service activities in the school.
- 5. **External Communication** A designated district spokesperson will communicate with the news media. Staff will refer all inquiries from the media directly to the district spokesperson. The spokesperson will:
 - a) Keep the district suicide prevention coordinator and superintendent informed of school actions relating to the death.

- **b)** Prepare a statement for the media including the facts of the death, postvention plans, and available resources. The statement will not include confidential information, speculation about victim motivation, means of suicide, or personal family information.
- c) Answer all media inquiries. If a suicide is to be reported by news media, the spokesperson should encourage reporters not to make it a front-page story, not to use pictures of the suicide victim, not to use the word suicide in the caption of the story, not to describe the method of suicide, and not to use the phrase "suicide epidemic" as this may elevate the risk of suicide contagion. They should also be encouraged not to link bullying to suicide and not to speculate about the reason for suicide. Media should be asked to offer the community information on suicide risk factors, warning signs, and resources available.

Sample Language for Student Handbooks

- **1.** Students will learn about recognizing and responding to warning signs of suicide in friends, using coping skills, using support systems, and seeking help for themselves and friends. This will occur in all health classes.
- **2.** Each school will designate a suicide prevention coordinator to serve as a point of contact for students in crisis and to refer students to appropriate resources.
- **3**. When a student is identified as being at risk, they will be assessed by a school based mental health professional who will work with the student and help connect them to appropriate local resources.
- 4. Students will have access to national resources which they can contact for additional support, such as:
 - The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline -1.800.273.8255 (TALK), www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
 - The Trevor Lifeline 1.866.488.7386, www.thetrevorproject.org
- **5**. All students will be expected to help create a school culture of respect and support in which students feel comfortable seeking help for themselves or friends. Students are encouraged to tell any staff member if they, or a friend, are feeling suicidal or in need of help.
- **6**. Students should also know that because of the life or death nature of these matters, confidentiality or privacy concerns are secondary to seeking help for students in crisis.

Definitions

- At Risk A student who is defined as high risk for suicide is one who has made a suicide attempt,
 has the intent to die by suicide, or has displayed a significant change in behavior suggesting the onset or
 deterioration of a mental health condition. The student may have thought about suicide including potential means
 of death and may have a plan. In addition, the student may exhibit feelings of isolation, hopelessness, helplessness,
 and the inability to tolerate any more pain. This situation would necessitate a referral, as documented in the
 following procedures.
- 2. **Crisis team** A multidisciplinary site based team of primarily administrative, mental health, safety professionals, and support staff whose primary focus is to address crisis preparedness, intervention/response and recovery. These professionals have been specifically trained in crisis preparedness through recovery and take the leadership role in developing crisis plans, ensuring school staff can effectively execute various crisis protocols, and may provide mental health services for effective crisis interventions and recovery supports.
- 3. **Mental Health** A state of mental and emotional being that can impact choices and actions that affect wellness. Mental health problems include mental and substance use disorders.

- 4. **Postvention Suicide** Postvention is a crisis intervention strategy designed to reduce the risk of suicide and suicide contagion, provide the support needed to help survivors cope with a suicide death, address the social stigma associated with suicide, and disseminate factual information after the suicide death of a member of the school community.
- 5. **Risk Assessment** An evaluation of a student who may be at risk for suicide, conducted by the appropriate school staff (e.g., school psychologist, school counselor, or school social worker). This assessment is designed to elicit information regarding the student's intent to die by suicide, previous history of suicide attempts, presence of a suicide plan and its level of lethality and availability, presence of support systems, and level of hopelessness and helplessness, mental status, and other relevant risk factors.
- 6. **Risk Factors for Suicide** Characteristics or conditions that increase the chance that a person may try to take his or her life. Suicide risk tends to be highest when someone has several risk factors at the same time. Risk factors may encompass biological, psychological, and or social factors in the individual, family, and environment.
- 7. **Self-Harm Behavior** that is self-directed and deliberately results in injury or the potential for injury to oneself. Can be categorized as either nonsuicidal or suicidal. Although self-harm often lacks suicidal intent, youth who engage in self-harm are more likely to attempt suicide.
- 8. **Suicide Death** caused by self-directed injurious behavior with any intent to die as a result of the behavior. Note: The coroner's or medical examiner's office must first confirm that the death was a suicide before any school official may state this as the cause of death.
- 9. **Suicide Attempt** A self-injurious behavior for which there is evidence that the person had at least some intent to kill himself or herself. A suicide attempt may result in death, injuries, or no injuries. A mixture of ambivalent feelings such as wish to die and desire to live is a common experience with most suicide attempts. Therefore, ambivalence is not a sign of a less serious or less dangerous suicide attempt.
- 10. **Suicidal Behavior** Suicide attempts, intentional injury to self-associated with at least some level of intent, developing a plan or strategy for suicide, gathering the means for a suicide plan, or any other overt action or thought indicating intent to end one's life.
- 11. **Suicide Contagion** The process by which suicidal behavior or a suicide influences an increase in the suicidal behaviors of others. Guilt, identification, and modeling are each thought to play a role in contagion. Although rare, suicide contagion can result in a cluster of suicides.
- 12. **Suicidal Ideation** Thinking about, considering, or planning for self-injurious behavior which may result in death. A desire to be dead without a plan or intent to end one's life is still considered suicidal ideation and should be taken seriously.

Middle School & High School Suicide Prevention Plan

- 1. **Staff training** will take place in two one hour blocks of time during the first month of school. School based mental health service providers, may deliver the instruction. Staff will learn about the following:
 - a. **Session one:** Overview of the suicide prevention program, QPR, ASES, and suicide prevention resources. Staff will learn how to respond to a student who displays suicidal characteristics.
 - b. **Session two:** Trauma informed care, building relationships with all students, and how to report concerns to the administration.
- 2. Student training will take place in the 6^{th} grade, 7^{th} grade, and 9^{th} grade year.
 - a. **6**th **grade students** will receive foundational suicide prevention training, that informs students how to seek help in times of crisis and how to support a friend who is in need.
 - b. **7**th **grade students** will receive additional suicide prevention training. The instruction may be taught in conjunction with school based mental health professionals. The training will consist of a general overview of the following concepts: QPR (Question, Persuade & Report), identifying suicide risk factors, understanding suicide prevention supports, and awareness of groups at heightened risk of suicide (LGTBQ). The training will empower students with some basic suicide prevention tools so they can help others or themselves in times of crisis.
 - c. **9**th **grade students** will receive suicide prevention training in their PE classes. The training may be taught by school based mental health professionals in conjunction with the school's PE staff. The training will largely be a review of what the students learned in 7th grade, focusing on QPR, identifying suicide risk factors, understanding suicide prevention supports, and awareness of groups at heightened risk of suicide (LGTBQ). This training will also be very appropriate for new students to the district and offer excellent first instruction in suicide prevention. In addition to suicide prevention, students will learn about all the mental health support systems available at the school and how to utilize them if needed.
- 3. **Mental health services** available to students in CRPUSD include: middle school and high school counseling staff, CAPE, Project Success, Child-Parent Institute (CPI), and school psychologists. Additional support is readily available from our school administrators, teachers, and support staff. Our partners at Rohnert Park Public Safety, Cotati Police and Fire, and the Petaluma Health Center are also a valuable resource.

Note: The CRPUSD Suicide Prevention Plan was developed with input from the following stakeholders: CRPUSD Ed Services, CRPUSD Student Services, CRPUSD Special Services, CRPUSD site counselors, CRPUSD site admin, Project Success, Child Parent Institute (CPI), and parents.