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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Martell Menlove, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

DATE: June 6, 2014

ACTION: R277-620 *Suicide Prevention Programs (Amendment)*

Background:

R277-620 *Suicide Prevention Programs* is amended to address changes made in H.B. 329 *Programs for Youth Protection*, 2014 Legislative Session.

Key Points:

Amendments to R277-620 add language to define the number of parent seminars that must be conducted by school districts and to define LEA prevention programs to include programs that are evidence-based or emerging best practices.

Anticipated Action:

It is proposed that the Standards and Assessment Committee consider approving R277-620, as amended, on first reading, and if approved by the Committee, the Board consider approving R277-620, as amended, on second reading.

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1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-620. Suicide Prevention Programs.**

3 **R277-620-1. Definitions.**

4 A. "Board" means the Utah State Board of Education.

5 B. "Intervention" means an effort to prevent a student
6 from attempting suicide.

7 C. "LEA" means a local education agency, including local
8 school boards/public school districts, charter schools, and,
9 for purposes of this rule, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and
10 the Blind.

11 D. "Parent notification" means a notice provided by a
12 public school to a students' parent(s) consistent with Section
13 53A-11a-203(2) and 53A-11a-301(3)(e).

14 E. "Postvention" means mental health intervention after
15 a suicide attempt or death to prevent or contain contagion.

16 F. "Program for secondary grades" means a youth suicide
17 prevention program for students in grades 7 through 12,
18 including grade 6 if middle or junior high school includes
19 grade 6.

20 G. "State suicide prevention coordinator" means the
21 person designated by the Department of Health - State Division
22 of Substance Abuse and Mental Health in Section 62A-15-1101.

23 H. "USOE" means the Utah State Office of Education.

24 I. "USOE suicide prevention coordinator" means person
25 designated by the Board to oversee the youth suicide
26 prevention programs of LEAs and who is responsible to
27 coordinate prevention programs, services, and efforts with the
28 state suicide prevention coordinator.

29 J. "Youth protection and mental health seminar" means a [n
30 ~~evening~~] seminar offered [~~by an LEA~~] for each 11,000 students
31 enrolled in a school district to parents of students
32 consistent with Section 53A-15-1301.

33 **R277-620-2. Authority and Purpose.**

34 A. This rule is authorized under Utah Constitution
35 Article X Section 3 which vests general control and
36 supervision of public education in the Board, and Section
37 53A-1-401(3) which allows the Board to adopt rules in
38 accordance with its responsibilities.

39 B. The purposes of this rule are:

40 (1) to provide for collaboration with the Department of
41 Health and Department of Human Services to establish, oversee,
42 and provide model policies, programs for LEAs and training for
43 parents about youth suicide prevention programs;

44 (2) to require LEAs to have and update youth protection
45 policies; and

46 (3) to direct LEAs to send notice to parents and protect
47 the confidentiality of the required parent notification record
48 regarding bullying and suicide incidents.

49 **R277-620-3. Board, USOE and LEA Responsibilities.**

50 A. Board and USOE responsibilities:

51 (1) The USOE suicide prevention coordinator shall oversee
52 LEA youth suicide prevention programs.

53 (2) The USOE, in collaboration with the Department of
54 Health - State Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health
55 and the state suicide prevention coordinator, shall establish
56 model youth suicide prevention programs for LEAs that include
57 training and resources addressing prevention of youth
58 suicides, youth suicide intervention, and postvention for
59 family, students and faculty.

60 (3) Based on legislative appropriation, the Board shall
61 distribute funds to LEAs so that LEAs can select and implement
62 [LEA programs] evidenced-based practices and programs, or
63 emerging best practices and programs, to support suicide
64 prevention efforts in the school district or charter school.

65 (4) The Board shall report jointly with the state suicide
66 prevention coordinator to the Legislature's Education Interim

67 Committee in [~~November 2013 and~~]2014 on:

68 (a) the progress of LEA programs; and

69 (b) the Board's coordination efforts with the Department
70 of Health - State Division of Substance Abuse and Mental
71 Health and the state suicide prevention coordinator.

72 B. LEA responsibilities:

73 (1) LEAs shall implement youth suicide prevention
74 programs for students in secondary grades, including grades 7
75 through 12 and grade 6, if grade 6 is part of a secondary
76 grade model.

77 (2) The programs shall include components provided in
78 Section 53A-15-1301(2).

79 (3) LEAs shall update bullying, cyber-bullying,
80 harassment, hazing, and retaliation policy(ies) consistent
81 with Section 53A-11a-301 and R277-613, including the required
82 parent notification outlined in Sections 53A-11a-203(2) and
83 53A-11a-301(3)(e) and R277-613-4C and D.

84 (4) LEAs shall provide necessary reporting information
85 consistent with Section 53A-15-1301(3) and (5) for the Board's
86 report on the coordination of suicide prevention programs and
87 seminar program implementation to the Legislature's Education
88 Interim Committee.

89 **KEY: public schools, suicide prevention programs, parent**
90 **notification, seminars**

91 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: [~~October 8,~~**
92 **2013]2014**

93 **Authorizing, and Implementing or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3:**
94 **53A-1-401(3)**