

School Suicide Postvention Protocol Chart

Maine Suicide Prevention Program, 2018

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:

- Convenes school crisis team
- Notifies family, guardian
- Notifies staff
- Contact NAMI for guidance

Suicide off site

Administrator:

- Verifies information
- Convenes Crisis Team.
- Administrator notifies staff
- Contact NAMI Maine for guidance
 - 622-5767

Respect/protect confidentiality

Support the Staff

- Schedule time for debriefing (call local crisis agency), identify most affected staff
- Review postvention protocols and how to deal with students
- Provide information on counseling services
- Give time off / secure substitutes as needed
- Continue to check in, offer support and debrief and evaluate

Notify and Support Other Students

- Arrange for additional clinical support
- In small groups, briefly state relevant publicly known facts, allow questions, discussion, preserving privacy.
- Identify and monitor those most impacted or vulnerable
- Review self-care skills and help-seeking behavior
- Review school resources for support
- Carefully plan appropriate memorialization
- Continue to check in and support affected youth

Direct media or outside inquiries to top administrator(s)

Document Actions Taken

Communicate with all families

- 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

- Administrator/designee contacts family and arranges for meeting
- Continue to monitor and provide support for all affected
- Remain vigilant re. contagion issues

