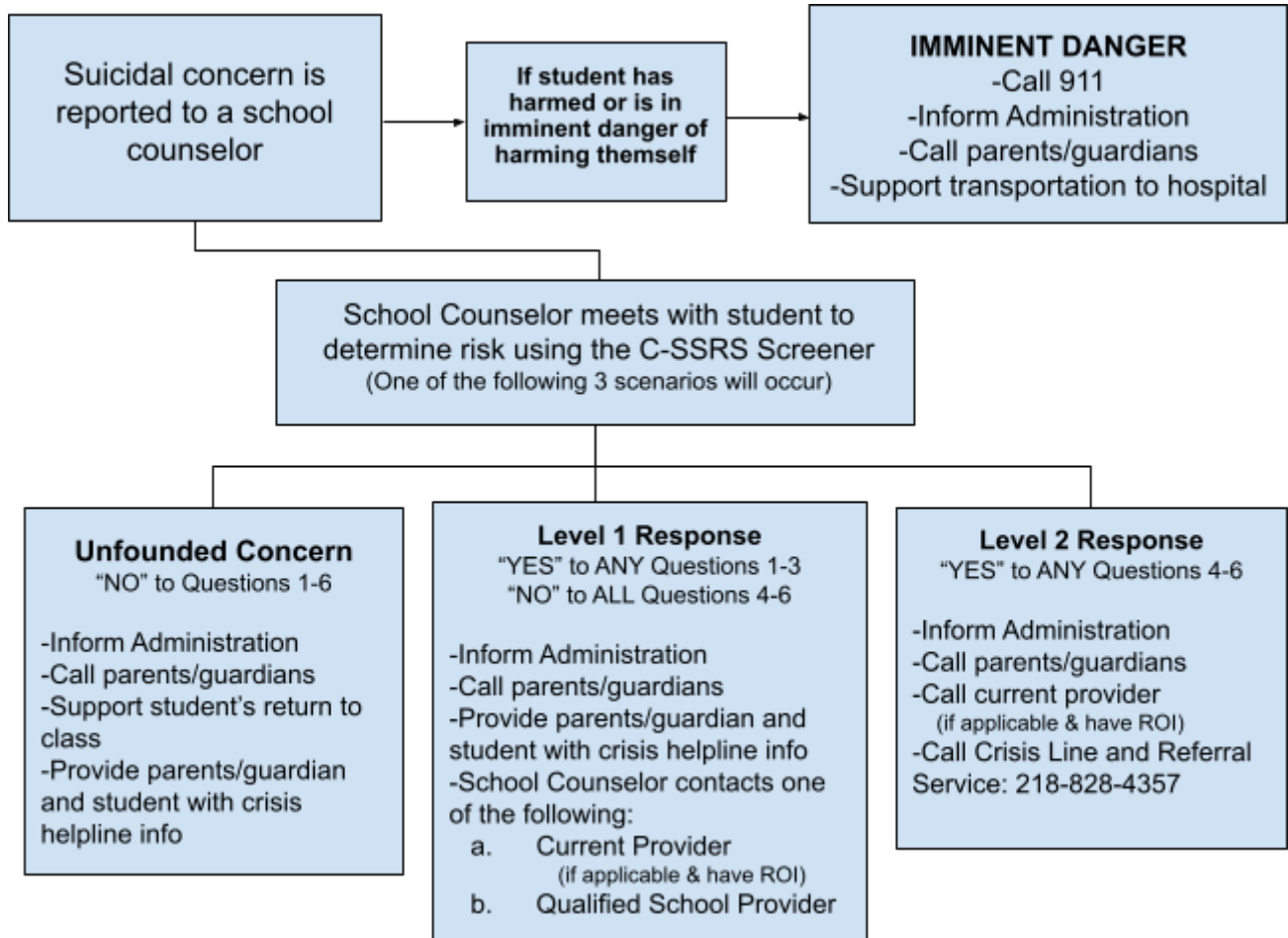


# Aitkin High School

## Suicide Prevention Protocol Flowchart



\*Take suicidal behavior seriously every time

\*Take immediate action. Contact the AHS school counselor(s).

\*No suicidal student expressing suicidal thoughts should be sent home alone or left alone during this process.

Note: The student's ability to see a mental health provider requires parental permission.

## **Protocol Overview**

The risk of suicide is raised when anyone identifies a student as potentially suicidal because s/he has directly or indirectly expressed suicidal thought (ideation) or demonstrated other clues or warning signs. Any school employee who has knowledge of this information must report immediately and directly to the school counselor so that the student of concern receives appropriate attention. A suicide risk screening will be completed for every student expressing thoughts of suicide.

If imminent danger exists, call 911. This is especially important if the student of concern has skipped school altogether or left the campus and concerns for safety exist.

## **Parent/Guardian Notification**

Parents/guardians should always be notified when there are concerns for risk of suicide.

-If a student discloses thoughts of suicide or if the school counselor has reason to believe there is current risk of suicide, the school counselor will request that the parent/guardian come to school to participate in the process.

-If a student denies having thoughts of suicide and the school counselor does not have reason to believe there is a current risk of suicide, the school counselor will still notify parent/guardian to share concerns.

-If all methods to reach the student's parent/guardian are exhausted and contact cannot be made, the School Counselor will either call law enforcement or Aitkin County Health and Human Services.

-If the parent/guardian is nonresponsive or refuses to assist, the school counselor (as required by mandatory reporting law) must inform Aitkin County Health and Human Services regarding the potential neglectful situation. The school counselor will document the date, time, and parent/guardian's response.

### **Exceptions for parent/guardian notification: Abuse or Neglect**

Parents/Guardians will not be contacted if there is reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been or is likely to be abused or neglected. Rather, the school counselor will make a report to Aitkin County Health and Human Services.

Always ask questions 1 and 2.		Past Month	
1) Have you wished you were dead or wished you could go to sleep and not wake up?			
2) Have you actually had any thoughts about killing yourself?			
If YES to 2, ask questions 3, 4, 5 and 6. If NO to 2, skip to question 6.			
3) Have you been thinking about how you might do this?			
4) Have you had these thoughts and had some intention of acting on them?		High Risk	
5) Have you started to work out or worked out the details of how to kill yourself? Did you intend to carry out this plan?		High Risk	
Always Ask Question 6		Life-time	Past 3 Months
6) Have you done anything, started to do anything, or prepared to do anything to end your life?  <i>Examples: Took pills, tried to shoot yourself, cut yourself, tried to hang yourself, took out pills but didn't swallow any, held a gun but changed your mind or it was grabbed from your hand, went to the roof but didn't jump, collected pills, obtained a gun, gave away valuables, wrote a will or suicide note, etc.</i> <b>If yes, was this within the past 3 months?</b>			High Risk



If YES to 2 or 3, seek behavioral healthcare for further evaluation.  
 If the answer to 4, 5 or 6 is YES, get **immediate help: Call or text 988, call 911 or go to the emergency room.**  
**STAY WITH THEM** until they can be evaluated.



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