

Jason Flatt Act Suicide Prevention Awareness Notification

SB 323, which is known as the Jason Flatt Youth Suicide Awareness Act, was passed by the Kansas legislature and signed into law by the Governor earlier this year. The provisions of this bill relevant to suicide awareness and prevention are:

- The board of education of each school district shall provide suicide awareness and prevention programming to all school staff and shall notify the parents or legal guardians of students enrolled in such school district that the training materials provided under such programming are available to such parents or legal guardians.
- Such programming shall include at a minimum:
- At least one hour of training each calendar year based on programs approved by the State Board of Education. Such training may be satisfied through independent self-review of suicide prevention training materials; and
- A building crisis plan developed for each school building. Such plan shall include:
 - Steps for recognizing suicide ideation;
 - Appropriate methods of interventions; and
 - A crisis recovery plan
- On or before January 1, 2017, the State Board of Education shall adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

Guidance

Between now and January 1, 2017 KSDE will be providing guidance relative to the implementation of SB 323 as well as adding resources to our KSDE School Counseling Resources web page

<http://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Career-Standards-and-Assessment-Services/Content-Area-M-Z/School-Counseling/School-Counseling-Resources>

KSDE encourages districts to develop partnerships with local and regional mental health centers and educational service centers to provide evidenced based training materials and technical assistance in developing crisis plans that meet the statutory requirements. This is also true for districts who plan on utilizing evidence based “independent self-review of suicide materials” that is intended to satisfy the requirements of the statute. An example of this is the curriculum available through the Jason Flatt Foundation located at

<http://jasonfoundation.com/getinvolved/educator-youth-worker-coach/professionaldevelopment-series/>.

USD #449 Suicide Prevention Training

Unified School District Administrators, faculty and staff members received one-hour in suicide prevention training August 11, 2016 as required by Senate Bill 323 Jason Flatt Suicide Awareness Act. Materials and resources used in the training was provided to USD #421 by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center’s Prevention and Wellness Center.

Suicide Prevention School and Parental Resources

<https://www.greenbush.org/suicideprevention/>

<https://www.greenbush.org/parentawarenessresources/>