



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2012-039

TO: School District Superintendents
School Principals

FROM: Bruce Hayes, School Safety Consultant
Support, Systems and Resources Division

DATE: March 5, 2012

SUBJECT: Anonymous School Safety (WeTip) Line and Suicide Prevention Line

ESSENTIAL SCHOOL SAFETY INFORMATION

As a reminder, below are two important phone numbers to have your district members retain. Please encourage you students and staff to use these as may be necessary.

Please ensure that your staff and students are knowledgeable about the anonymous WeTip line number: **1-800-78-CRIME**. This number can be used by students and staff alike to warn of danger or help solve crimes. Tips go to trained bilingual operators and all calls are truly *anonymous* 100 percent of the time. More information can be found on www.wetip.com.

Some communities have alternate or local tip lines. Students who are not comfortable with WeTip may call a local number and the students who don't trust the local numbers can call 1-800-78-CRIME. Together, they cover a wider spectrum of support. Also, each fall new tip line posters are sent to schools. Please keep these up all year if possible. New posters are available by calling me at the 307-777-6198.

There is a suicide prevention line that students can call as well. It is served by two numbers: **1-800-273-TALK** and **1-800-SUICIDE**. These numbers are answered by the Wyoming Behavioral Institute, and calling either one provides access to a trained mental health professional. Once connected, the counselor can refer the caller to other services as needed. More information can be found on www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Both numbers are available 24-7, 365 days per year.

Regarding the school safety number, feel free to contact me if you have any questions at bruce.hayes@wyo.gov or call 307-777-6198. For the suicide prevention number, feel free to contact Emily Genoff for questions at emily.quarterman-genoff@uhsinc.com or call 307-262-0362.

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