



WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Creating Opportunities
for Students to Keep
Wyoming Strong*

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2016-018

TO: School District Superintendents
Secondary School Principals
Secondary School Teachers
Secondary School Counselors

FROM: Brent Young, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: February 8, 2016

SUBJECT: Suicide Prevention Resource

SCHOOL SUICIDE PREVENTION TOOL

A new web-based suicide prevention tool is available to Wyoming schools at www.classroommentalhealth.org. This tool can be incorporated into various prevention strategies for schools.

The site is designed to serve teachers, students, parents, principals, and counselors. It predominantly supports educators of grades 8-12 in three ways:

1. Provides brief, environmental, and action-based strategies to help create a classroom atmosphere beneficial to student mental health;
2. Supports collaboration between school staff, parents, guardians, and families of students who may be struggling with mental health concerns;
3. Helps facilitate the referral process for students in distress.

The website serves as an additional resource to support existing school-based mental health and suicide prevention programs. It also provides school staff with a variety of tools and resources which can be easily accessed and utilized within the context of a teacher's regular classroom routine.

Each district has its own presence on the site and is encouraged to populate it with known local suicide prevention-related resources that can help parents, staff, and students understand what help may be available in their area.

For questions, please contact Bruce Hayes, School Safety Consultant, at bruce.hayes@wyo.gov or 307-777-6198.