

Welcome To IDEA- Crisis Prevention & Response



Our Goal Our vision is to ensure the physical and emotional safety of all IDEA staff and students. By providing high-quality training and professional development to our team members and preventative psycho-educational lessons to our students, we optimize the level of preparedness for our staff, students, and community in the event of a crisis or critical incident.

What does Crisis Prevention & Response look like at IDEA? At IDEA we believe equipping our campus administrators, teachers, students, and families with the skills to prevent, identify and respond to crises and critical incidents provides our campuses with the best opportunity to remain safe for all. While we can prevent crises from occurring, we can ensure that when they do everyone is aware of their role. We also believe that effective communication with our staff, students, and families is paramount. We promise to keep all stakeholders abreast whenever incidents occur as well as providing updates and closure while we work to resolve the situation.

Staff Training & Professional Development

Risk Assessment Protocol (Harm to Self): This is our district-wide response protocol in the event of an outcry from a student who has *suicidal ideation* or engages in self-harming behaviors. We utilize the evidence-based **Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (CSSR-S)** assessment tool to determine the level of risk a student is presenting at that time. Following our Risk Assessment Flowchart, we then employ supportive services and interventions to best serve the student during the crisis and recovery stages.

Note: Parents are immediately contacted and asked to report to campus for emergency conference. During this time, a summary of the event, next steps, and ongoing student support will be provided. If warranted, school administrators will request consent to have your child screened by the *Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT)* for further support.

Threat Assessment Protocol (Harm to Others): This is our district-wide response protocol if a student threatens another peer, staff member or campus at-large. The **Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG)** assessment tool is evidence-based and consists of a multi-tiered team that undergoes a thorough investigative process that prevents acts of violence and reduces future risk to staff, students, and the campus. This process also involves support from local law enforcement and other supporting agencies. After gathering all available data, members of the campus, regional and national teams collaborate to determine next steps and interventions to ensure the ongoing safety of everyone involved.

Note: Parents are immediately informed about the incident and will be asked to report to campus to meet with administrators where next steps will be identified.

Suicide Prevention: Annually, our IDEA staff members are trained in how to identify early signs of depression, anxiety, and suicidal behaviors and risk factors strongly associated with students having suicidal thoughts. During this training, staff members learn skills on how to support a

student when they make an outcry. This preventative approach allows for staff to intervene early, which leads to less intensive support and better outcomes for students.

State Mandated Lessons/Awareness for Students

Bullying Prevention: Each year, we provide state mandated psycho-educational lessons to our K-12 students on how to embrace our core value of Team & Family. These lessons teach students how to show kindness to others despite their differences. Additionally, they provide tools for students to be aware of signs of bullying, how to intervene, and who to come to when instances of bullying arise.

Resources

To access your community resources, please contact your campus School Counselor or Social Worker.

Your Main Contact

If you have questions, or need more information about Crisis Prevention & Response at IDEA, please contact: [INSERT School Counselor/Social Worker contact info]

Student Programming

State Required Lessons

Anti-Bullying - It is not only our responsibility but a legal obligation as an organization to ensure a psychologically, emotionally, and physically safe environment for our scholars to thrive academically and socially. We are mandated to provide preventative education/programs to our scholars as well as investigate any reports of bullying to protect the safety of our students. This training teaches students how to show kindness to others and what to do when they notice signs of bullying. At the conclusion of the lesson, students Take a Pledge Against Bullying—help join the cause by having conversations with your student(s) at home!

Sexual Abuse Prevention - In addition to our bullying prevention lessons, we also provide lessons to our K-12 students that address establishing safe boundaries & relationships, online etiquette, and how to respond in uncomfortable situations. The *Safer, Smarter Schools* curriculum is an evidenced-based and state-approved programming that is also mandated annually by the state. Lessons are designed to be developmentally appropriate for each grade level or cohort. To learn more about Safer, Smarter Schools, please visit their website: <https://safersmarterschools.org/>.

Note: This is an opt-in program. Families that wish for their child not to participate, be sure to opt your child out during the registration process. More information on the curriculum will be provided during the school year.

Suicide Prevention: Students in grades 6-12 will participate in lessons that raise awareness of signs of depression, anxiety, social isolation, and suicidal ideation. These lessons teach students how to identify warning signs, associated risk, and what to do whenever they or a peer express concerning behavior or makes an outcry.

Note: This is an opt-in program. Families that wish for their child not to participate, be sure to opt your child out during the registration process. More information on the curriculum will be provided during the school year.

Other Recommended Programming

S.A.F.E.T.Y. First Violence Prevention - This S.A.F.E.T.Y. First Violence Prevention Presentation has been designed to support 6th-12th grade students in making sound decisions before acting on feelings or thoughts that could negatively impact their trajectory in life. Students learn adaptive strategies to implement whenever they are feeling overwhelmed, unsure or frustrated through an easy-to-follow model--S.A.F.E.T.Y. First. At the end of the presentation, students "Take a Pledge" to do what's right, even when it's uncomfortable. This PowerPoint empowers students to use their voice to keep themselves, their peers and the school safe.

Substance Use Prevention: Tobacco & Vaping – IDEA Public Schools is a substance-free school zone and seeks to create an environment that is physically and emotionally safe for students and staff. To address issues related to substances that arise on campus, we have created a toolkit to support the prevention and response to substance-use related issues that our campuses face. This toolkit utilizes resources from research on adolescent tobacco use, risk perceptions, and decision-making, which shows that adolescents' perceptions of risks, benefits, and social norms predict tobacco use.