

ATTACHMENT 2.01

PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION

Parents and/or guardians should be contacted immediately when a student has been identified as possibly being at risk of suicide. The person who contacts the family is typically the principal, school mental health staff, or a staff member with a close connection to the student or family.

Staff need to be sensitive toward the family's culture, including attitudes towards suicide, mental health, privacy, and help-seeking. It is also critical that the school takes steps to address language/cultural barriers and ensure proper and adequate communication with parents/guardians.

SAMPLE SCRIPT

"We received a concern that your child may be thinking about suicide. Your student is currently safe and is not in trouble with the school. This can feel scary, and we want to support you and your student, so we'd like your permission to check in with [student name] directly to ask some questions related to suicidal thoughts. Then we can talk about safety and support from there. Do we have your permission to screen and support your child? We will update you immediately."

