



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO Box 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

KIMBERLEY HARRINGTON
Acting Commissioner

June 27, 2017

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Nonpublic School Administrators
Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

FROM: Peggy McDonald, Acting Assistant Commissioner
Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services

SUBJECT: School Staff Required to Report Youth Suicide Attempts or Completions

School staff members are now required to report non-identifying demographic information when the staff member has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a student has attempted or completed suicide, in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 30:9A-24*.

The [Protocol for Reporting Youth Suicide Attempt or Completion](#) outlines a list of professionals who, by law, are required to report attempted or completed suicide by youth. Included among the local educational agency members required to report this information are:

- Any teaching staff member;
- Any licensed psychologist, social worker, professional counselor, physician, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, alcohol and drug counselor; and
- A member of any professional group that may be identified by the New Jersey Youth Suicide Prevention Advisory Council.

Reports must be entered online in the [Youth Suicide Reporting Form](#), which is directly submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF). In an effort to avoid duplicative reporting, school staff members are encouraged to follow the school district's reporting policies and procedures.

If you have any questions on the reporting requirements, please contact DCF at dpcp@dcf.state.nj.us. For information and resources on youth suicide prevention, visit the New Jersey Department of Education's [Suicide & Other Traumatic Loss Events](#) webpage.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Kimberley Harrington, Acting Commissioner
Nancy Curry
Katherine Czehut
Kathy Ehling
Greg Kocher

Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers
Executive County Superintendents
Executive County Business Officials
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group