



September 2, 2020

Parents/Guardians,

This letter is to notify you that as per Senate Bill 1 (2019)* the Perry County School District will be providing Suicide Prevention Information to Middle and High School Students (6th -12th grades). According to communications we receive from the Ky. Department of Behavioral Health the current situation with COVID-19 is considered a crisis situation and increases the risk that youth do not feel safe. "Students who don't feel safe have a 4 times increased risk of suicide."

Under guidance from the Department of Behavioral Health we have chosen to implement this year's suicide prevention curriculum using the "Navigating Back to School "series by the Society for Prevention of Teen Suicide. For students participating in virtual learning the lessons will be delivered from classroom teachers during the week of Sept. 7-11th. Parents/guardians are urged to monitor and follow up with their students as they receive this information. There are parent resources on the curriculum website that you may access by going to sptsusa.org, click on the "Navigating Back to School Link on the left side of the opening page that mentions educators and parents. You will be asked to make an account then you may click on the icon for parents. You may also visit the Perry County School's web page to access the link. Please let us know if you would like assistance in accessing the information.

Students not participating in virtual learning will be contacted by their school with arrangements to deliver the lesson in person.

Our district intends to follow up with a "booster" curriculum later in the year and will notify you as this process begins.

Perry County Schools values the wellbeing of their students and families. If you would like more information regarding this legislation or the curriculum please contact the administration at your child's school. Additional resource for suicide prevention can be found on the Perry County Schools web page.

Sincerely,


Jonathan Jett

*SB 1 (2019) - Suicide Prevention Information for Middle and High School Students

SB 1 (2019) amends KRS 156.095 to require that every public school shall provide suicide prevention awareness information in person, by live streaming, or via a video recording information to all students in grades six (6) through twelve (12) by September 15th of each year. The Cabinet for Health and Family Services posts suicide prevention awareness and training information on its webpage.