



BRADLEY-BOURBONNAIS COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

D I S T R I C T 3 0 7

Home of the Boilermakers

700 West North Street | Bradley, IL 60915

March 18, 2022

BBCHS Families and Student Body,

It is with heavy hearts that we share this with you today. This morning we received the extremely saddening news that one of our students died by suicide yesterday evening. First and foremost, our heartfelt sympathy and prayers go out to the families and friends affected by this tragedy.

At times like this, it is okay to have many different feelings, including sadness, anger, and disbelief. Members of our counseling department as well as trained local crisis counselors will be present today and in the coming weeks to provide support to students and staff as needed. Coping with the grief is impactful.

Below we are going to share some suicide warning signs and resources for our school community. Please pay attention to your needs, take care of yourself, love those around you, and reach out if you need anything.

National Suicide Prevention

Lifeline

[\(800\) 273-8255](tel:(800)273-8255)

HopeLine

[\(877\) 235-4525](tel:(877)235-4525)

Crisis Text Line

[741741](text:741741)

Suicide.org

[\(800\) 784-2433](tel:(800)784-2433)

Suicide.org

[State-by-State Hotlines](#)

Wikipedia

[Hotlines by Country](#)

Youth Warning Signs

Leaders in the suicide prevention field agree that the following warning signs indicate a young person may be at risk for suicide:

- Talking about or making plans for suicide
- Expressing hopelessness about the future
- Displaying severe/overwhelming emotional pain or distress



- Showing worrisome behavioral cues or marked changes in behavior, particularly in the presence of the warning signs above. Specifically, this includes significant:

- Withdrawal from or change in social connections or situations
- Changes in sleep (increased or decreased)
- Anger or hostility that seems out of character or out of context
- Recent increased agitation or irritability



What to Do

If you notice any of these signs in a student, take these recommended steps right away:

1. Do not leave the student alone and unsupervised. Make sure the student is in a secure environment supervised by caring adults until he or she can be seen by the school mental health contact.
2. Make sure the student is escorted to the school's mental health professional.
3. Provide any additional information to the school's mental health contact that will assist with the assessment of the student.

What to Do

1. Ask if the student is okay or if he or she is having thoughts of suicide.
2. Express your concern about what you are observing in his or her behavior.
3. Listen attentively and nonjudgmentally.
4. Reflect what the student shares and let the student know he or she has been heard.
5. Tell the student that he or she is not alone.
6. Let the student know there are treatments available that can help.
7. If you or the student are concerned, guide him or her to additional professional help, or to call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, a 24-hour toll-free phone line for people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress: 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

Brian Wright
Principal