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Suicide Prevention in Schools – A Call to Action for District and Building Leaders

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To: Superintendents, Principals, Charter School Leaders, K-12 Public Information Officers
From: Nole Kennedy, Student Wellness & Safety Specialist, Oregon Department of Education
Date: September 25, 2024
Re: Suicide Prevention in Schools – A Call to Action for District and Building Leaders

Dear Education Leaders,

September is Suicide Prevention month, and we're requesting all elementary, middle and high school leaders equip your school community to support students who may be at risk of suicide and to refer those students to help. Fall can be a challenging time for Oregon's youth. The data show rates of suicide attempts and related deaths among Oregon's youth often increase each fall.

[This Call to Action](#), prepared in partnership with the Oregon Health Authority, Lines for Life, and the University of Oregon provides resources and action items to equip school administrators and staff, along with caregivers and other trusted adults with skills to support students who may be at risk for suicidal behaviors and refer those students to qualified mental health providers.

Contact Us

- Nole Kennedy, Student Wellness & Safety Specialist, Oregon Department of Education nole.kennedy@ode.oregon.gov

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