



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

5735 47th Avenue • Sacramento, CA 95824

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October 2020

Dear Families and Students of Fern Bacon Middle School:

Sacramento City Unified Board Policy (BP) 5141.52 specifically addresses suicide awareness and prevention training for students in Grades 7-12. As you know, the teen years are marked by a roller coaster ride of emotions – difficult for teens, their parents, and educators. It is easy to misread depression as normal adolescent turmoil; however, depression appears to be occurring at a much earlier age and the past decade has seen teen suicide rates double.

In order to proactively address this issue, our school counselors at Fern Bacon Middle School will be presenting a research-based curriculum, SOS, **Signs of Suicide Prevention Program** in your child's ELA class starting the week of November 2, 2020. This program has proven successful at increasing help-seeking by students concerned about themselves or a friend. One goal of this program is to impress upon teens that they can help themselves or a friend by taking the simple step of talking to a responsible adult about their concerns.

__ If you are in **SUPPORT** of your child's participation in the training, **YOU DO NOT NEED TO DO ANYTHING.**

__ If you **DO NOT** wish your child to participate in the SOS: Signs of Suicide intervention training, please **SEND AN EMAIL** including your child's name and grade to Mrs. Arwen Renda at Arwen-Renda@scusd.edu informing that you DO NOT wish your child to attend or participate **BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2020.**

Please do not hesitate to call the school office at (916) 395-5340 if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mary Coronado

Mary-Coronado@scusd.edu