

## **Board Policy:**

### **Purpose:**

Recognizing that mental disorders are a leading cause of death for youth in the United States, the school has developed the following plan to prevent such a disorder from overcoming a student.

### **Prevention:**

- AeroSTEM Academy will strive to promote a strong positive school climate that fosters respectful relationships and strengthens feelings of connectedness to the school.
- AeroSTEM Academy will fully implement its discipline policies, which will allow students to wholeheartedly focus on learning.
- AeroSTEM Academy will enhance students' understanding of social-emotional health through ongoing interactions by speaking about and modeling healthy mental practices.
- AeroSTEM Academy will offer suicide prevention training which will include the following components:
  - Recognize indicating suicide ideation
  - Understand potential risk factors
  - Develop an inventory of resources and services available
  - Cultivate opportunities for student involvement
- AeroSTEM Academy will develop a Suicide Prevention Handbook to assist with suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention protocols.

### **Intervention:**

- If a staff member suspects a student's suicidal ideation, he/she will notify administration and refer to the school's Suicide Prevention Handbook.
- The parent shall be notified and provided with mental health resources.

### **Postvention:**

In the unfortunate event of a student suicide, AeroSTEM Academy will do everything possible to support the family survivors and fellow students including, communicating clear messages as needed and appropriate, identifying others at risk for self-destructive behavior, providing on-site counseling, and assisting with access to mental health services.