

## What does Deer Lakes offer to address and monitor mental health needs related to school safety?

### COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL THREAT ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES (CSTAG)

District administration and building representatives received extensive training on the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines, an evidence-based model for schools to use in conducting threat assessments.

This is a violence prevention approach that emphasizes early attention to problems such as student conflicts before they escalate into violent behavior.

### SELF-HARM & RISK ASSESSMENTS

Assessment tool used by licensed professional to screen students who present with suicidal ideation or self-harm. The process also involves an administrator, school counselor, mental health liaison or social worker, parent, and the student to address the concern collaboratively.

### SAFE2SAY

Participation in Safe2Say Youth Violence Prevention Program run by the PA Office of Attorney General. A team of the middle school principal, high school principal, school psychologist, SRO, and superintendent receive the anonymous tips from the crisis center that reviews and processes all submissions. Secondary students are trained yearly on how to utilize the tip system.



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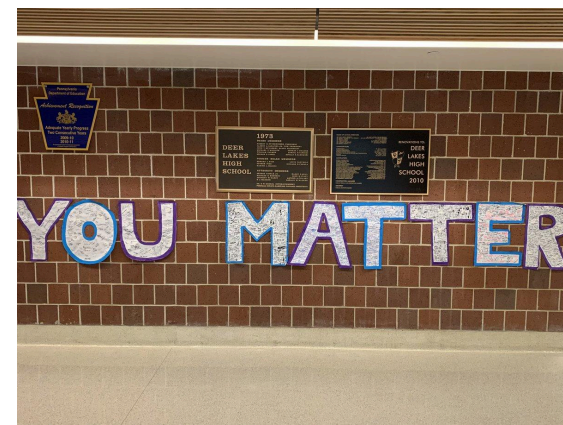
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**DEER LAKES**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Today's Learners. Tomorrow's Leaders*

## Mental Health Resources



*Deer Lakes understands that students have a variety of mental health and emotional support needs throughout the school year. To meet those diverse needs, the district has built multiple layers of support into each building.*

For more information about the district services and resources, please visit the Mental Health Supports webpage at: <https://www.deerlakes.net/MentalHealthSupports.aspx>.

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis, please call 911, the ReSolve Crisis Services at 1-888-7YOU-CAN or the National Suicide Prevention LifeLine at 1-800-273-TALK.

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## Partnerships

### THE HIGHMARK CARING PLACE

Highmark Caring Place has partnered with the district to promote grief therapy and offer group support in the secondary buildings.

### STAR CENTER-University of Pittsburgh

The Center's mission is to provide state-of-the-art youth suicide prevention through the specialized and evidence based assessment and treatment of children and adolescents suffering from depression and or anxiety.

### ALLEGHENY COUNTY

There is ongoing communication with the county school liaison to assist students and families. A county representative provided training to district administration and school police.

### WEST DEER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Trained Police Officers are assigned to each district building and there is a designated School Resource Officer for the district.

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## Professional Development

Deer Lakes School District understands that mental health issues can impact every student population constituency and every aspect of the system. Mental health training is a regular part of the school district's staff development. In the past few years, Deer Lakes' staff have been trained on issues such as: Youth Mental Health First Aid, Trauma-Informed Care, Crisis Response Procedures, Suicide Awareness, De-escalation Techniques, and Positive Behavior Supports. In addition, district staff have share their work at local and state avenues.

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## Mental Health Supports



Deer Lakes currently utilizes the following district staff and contracted providers and contracted support staff: School Psychologist, School Counselors, Mental Health Liaisons, Social Worker, Behavioral and other consultation.

### STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Student Assistance Program works to provide support to students with behavioral and emotional needs. The goal of this program is to screen and connect students to the most appropriate level of care. This program partners with Human Services Administration Organization (HSAO) includes groups to promote positive social emotional health.

### SCHOOL-BASED OUTPATIENT THERAPY

Outpatient therapy provided in a confidential space, in all four school buildings. These services are provided throughout the school day. SBMH currently supports more than 50 students.

### CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PARTIAL HOSPITALIZATION PROGRAM

This program assists with students transitioning from inpatient hospitalization and supports students needing a higher level of care. Students also have the ability to step down and make a transitional return to the district.

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## Programs & Curriculums

### SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS

An evidence-based three-tiered framework to improve and integrate all of the data, systems, and practices affecting student outcomes every day. PBIS creates schools where all students succeed.

### SECOND STEPS

A social-emotional learning program that teaches various social and emotional skills such as emotion recognition and management, empathy, problem solving, bullying prevention, and goal-setting.

### SIGNS OF SUICIDE

A suicide prevention program for secondary students that educates students about the relationship between suicide and depression. We encourage all students to seek help from trusted adults whether they have concerns about themselves or a friend using the ACT® message.

### RACHEL'S CHALLENGE

Rachel's Challenge is a program designed to promote kindness and decrease bullying.

### #STANDTOGETHER

A social change, peer-to-peer model to stop stigma by promoting positive change in schools.

### HOPE SQUAD

To assist in promoting connectedness, this program's goal is to reduce youth suicide through education, training, and peer intervention.