

CRISIS ASSISTANCE & SUPPORT TEAM

Independent School District No. 1 * Lewiston, ID 83501

Assisting Schools When Tragedy Occurs

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Lewiston School District's Crisis Assistance & Support Team (CAT) is to ensure the safety and well-being of students, faculty, and community in crisis situations. Our role is to provide assistance and support to building administration, faculty, and students in the event of a crisis situation.

WHAT IS A CRISIS?

A crisis means a situation which is unusual or abnormal and in which circumstances create high stress to an individual and requires assistance.

A crisis causes psychological trauma to students and/or staff and requires immediate action because of its disruption or potential disruption to the educational process. A school crisis may impact a small group of students in one classroom or the entire school community. Possible types of crises: death of a student or staff member, acts of violence, suicide attempt or completion, natural disaster such as earthquake, fire, toxic spill, automobile or other accident.

WHAT IS THE CRISIS TEAM?

The Crisis Assistance & Support Team consists of one team with two primary leaders who alternate monthly throughout the calendar year. The team members are all professionals who work for the Independent School District No. 1. We are comprised of school teachers, administrative assistants, and school social workers. All Crisis Assistance Team members have received specialized training in crisis management, crisis intervention, grief management and suicide prevention. Team member roles include: Team Leader, System Support, Parent/Family Contact, Community Liaison, Faculty Support and Student Support. Our team works closely with the school Administrators and Counselors to provide a safe and predictable response to our schools.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM THE TEAM:

- * Assist building administration on-site in crisis situations,
- * Provide support for building's internal counseling team,
- * Provide structure and a plan for response,
- * Consult with community partners for additional mental health support when needed,
- * Monitor and counsel students/staff in need,
- * Plan for immediate and ongoing student support,
- * Support families when needed,
- * Coordinate cross-district support/outreach,
- * Transition student needs to internal counseling team.

ACTIVATION PROTOCOL:

If you know of a potential crisis situation, please contact the Crisis Assistance & Support Team leader at [208-790-2233](tel:208-790-2233). The team leader will contact the Building Administrator and District Superintendent for additional information and will not respond to any school location without prior notice and permission of Administration.

If you have questions regarding the Crisis Assistance & Support Team or need information or resources for dealing with children who are grieving, please contact the team by calling [208-790-2233](tel:208-790-2233).

For further information contact the Lewiston School District at 208-748-3000