

# School and Mental Health Services Interventions and Referrals Guidelines

Walk in Services at Mental Health provides a counseling option for that day. Please note that this:

- Does not mean admission or that one will see a psychiatrist
- Is not a med review
- Will assess acute, immediate risk of harm to self and others
- Can aid in the development of a safety plan
- Works best when families attend with the child

OBSERVED BEHAVIOUR

There is a social, emotional or behavioral shift. The student may benefit from a visit to the family doctor to rule out any medical conditions or to do a med review if applicable.

A student *may* be at risk and pose a threat to self or others.

A clear and plausible threat has been made and a **VTRA is in progress.**

Student is posing a threat to self and others.

The safety of the student and/or others is in serious danger.

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSE

The student should be referred to their family doctor. The doctor will determine if a referral to psychiatry is suitable.

A signed Release of Confidential Information form and a description of the student behavior, mood changes, etc. shall be faxed to the doctor. This will support the consultation.

Parents are informed of concerns- a referral to PAPHR MH for service for their child may be recommended in collaboration with parent.

Principal or school designate may call intake for an immediate assessment (765-6055)

**If it is a VTRA indicate to intake worker that a VTRA is in progress**  
The Intake worker will alert necessary Mental Health staff (manager, psychologist).

Indicate that you are a) calling about student at risk and b) that you are referring him/her to Mental Health. Describe the specific incident that occurred. If you know the student is already involved with Mental Health or psychiatry, inform the intake worker. **This is considered a referral (but is not mandatory by MH). This is considered a voluntary referral.** The referral does not mean that the student will a) be admitted nor b) see a psychiatrist.

Do not assume that MH has all of the details because they very often do not. For example, a student may be involved with Children's Clinic or may see a psychiatrist. Communication with specific medical support personnel is often the best resource, as they can provide information that is relevant.

Two phone call attempts will be made by MH within two days if the student misses the appointment.

- Inform parent or guardian to transport to PAPHR Emergency Room.
- Inform Ed. Center support staff/ superintendent.
- An ongoing risk assessment may follow.

Call Ambulance: follow SRPSD Procedure