

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Fenwick High School takes all indications of self-harm, suicidal thoughts and other significant mental health concerns seriously. Based on concerns the Fenwick Student Services Department has regarding your child, we are asking for your child to receive a mental health assessment from a licensed mental health professional (licensed clinical professional counselor, licensed clinical social worker, psychologist or psychiatrist) prior to the continuation of academics and co-curricular activities at Fenwick High School. Below are the steps parents should follow to determine the most appropriate level of support for your child and to coordinate a smooth re-entry back to Fenwick:

1. Arrange for your child to be assessed by a licensed mental health professional as soon as possible. We can help provide referrals (see last page) to clinicians, agencies, hospitals and services who may be able to assess your child.

2. Follow the recommendations provided by the clinician, which may include but is not limited to: outpatient therapy, partial or inpatient hospitalization and/or medication management.

3. Sign a consent for release of information and arrange for the clinician to share the recommended treatment plan with the Fenwick Student Services Department in order to coordinate your child's re-entry back to school. Student/family confidentiality is adhered to as dictated by the Ethical Code of the American School Counselor Association. All documentation should be faxed (708.386.3052) or emailed to the attention of your child's school counselor and social worker.

4. If the assessment and recommended treatment plan results in an immediate return to Fenwick, please see #6 below.

5. If the assessment results in a recommended extended absence from Fenwick High School, please contact your child's school counselor/social worker to communicate the preliminary treatment plan as outlined by the clinician. Fenwick school counselor and social worker will communicate with any treatment facility and our faculty to collaborate on the therapeutic and academic needs for your child. The school counselor and social worker will coordinate the provision of necessary information for your child's return to learn in a sensitive and confidential manner.

6. Re-entry back to Fenwick High School academics and co-curricular activities requires the following four written statements from the evaluating clinician, which can be shared via fax or email:

-Evaluation Date

-Outcome/Diagnosis

-Safety Statement: the student is not at risk of self-harm or of harming others and it is appropriate for the student to return to Fenwick High School

-Therapeutic recommendations, treatment plan, discharge summary and a plan for the transition back to the school environment

7. Upon receipt of documentation, a school social worker and your child's school counselor will schedule a Transition Meeting. This meeting will occur before your child returns to school. The meeting should include the student, parent or guardian, school nurse, school counselor and social worker. Please know other stakeholders may attend this meeting as needed. The purpose of this meeting is to review the recommendations from the assessment and treatment plan in an effort to determine the most effective support system for your child's continued care both inside and outside of Fenwick High School. Once all aspects of the Transition Meeting are accomplished and meet expectations, your child is authorized to return to classes and co-curricular activities

8. Following the Re-Entry Meeting, an Academic Staffing meeting will occur. A school social worker and/or school counselor will schedule a staffing. The determination to conduct an Academic Staffing depends on the length of your child's extended absence and current progress made toward completing academic make-up work. This meeting should include the student, parent or guardian, teachers, school counselor and social worker. Please know other stakeholders may attend this meeting as needed. The purpose of this meeting is to allow the student along with their parents/guardians an opportunity to share academic challenges associated with the extended absence. Teachers, staff and other stakeholders will develop an academic recovery plan.

Spiritual support can be offered by Campus Ministry if requested.

Please know your child's safety, along with their overall continued health and wellness, is more important than their return to our school environment. While we want your child to return as soon as possible, we cannot allow them to return to school unless all of the expectations outlined above have been followed. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's school counselor with any questions or concerns.

Student Services Department
Fenwick High School

Local Resources Providing Mental Health Assessments (in no particular order)*

CARES/SASS (medicaid only)
1800-345-9049

Pillars Community Health (all insurances)
West Suburban locations
708-PILLARS (708-745-5277)
Main number/24-hour crisis line

Riveredge Hospital (all insurances)
8311 Roosevelt Rd
Forest Park, IL 60130
708-209-4181
24/7 Crisis line

Thrive Counseling Center (all insurances)
120 South Marion St.
Oak Park, IL 60302
708-383-7500
24/7 crisis line.

Alexian Brothers
1650 Moon Lake Blvd,
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
(800) 432-5005

**Fenwick High School does not recommend specific providers. Please check with your insurance provider and Primary Care Physician for specific providers in your area and insurance plan*