

Behavior Problems/Violence

Note

If you see the telephone symbol (☎) next to any sign below occurring in the student, call for help (EMS/9-1-1, school nurse, first aid-trained staff).

Look for



Uncontrolled rage



A weapon

- Paranoia, e.g., irrational expectation to be hurt or taken advantage of
- Disturbed thinking, e.g., strange, irrational beliefs
- Hallucinations, e.g., experiencing a command to harm self/others
- Aggressive communication, e.g., threatens harm to self/others
- Disoriented, confused, frantic behaviors
- Extremely irritable, angry, worried, withdrawn

Listen for

statements about



Suicidal intentions

- History of violence

Action

1. Be sure the scene is safe before approaching the student. Call EMS (9-1-1) and security/school crisis team for any signs of physical aggression and exposure of a weapon.
 - **Do not** intervene alone, challenge, argue, or make physical contact in this high-risk event.
 - Maintain an immediate exit route if interacting with this student, an open posture and stand at a 45 degree angle rather than face to face.
 - Attempt to involve people whom the student trusts.
 - For emergent communication, give clear, brief, assertive directions before any action.
 - Identify yourself as a concerned individual.
 - For non-emergent communication (non-violent, but agitated or highly anxious), speak calmly, slowly and in simple and concrete terms, remaining calm, patient, and neutral.
 - Acknowledge the student is upset; offer to help; talk about what is wrong.
 - Repeat, restate what student says to confirm understanding of student's thoughts and feelings.
 - Reassure student, as appropriate, regarding his/her safety.
 - When communicating through a translator, look at and talk to the person you are addressing, not at the translator.
2. For non-emergent students, walking may help dissipate intense anger.
3. Students with suicidal intent must be transported to the closest emergency facility.
4. Advise parents of need for professional evaluation.

Always follow school district policy when providing first aid or emergency care.

