Alachua County Public Schools
Student Support Services

TABLE 1

Suicidal Tendencies Scale

Read each statement. Assess your client in each of the following categories. Place the appropriate score in the blank to the right of each statement. The statement applies if any of the conditions are met. If the question does not apply consider it a zero (0). Add all the scores. Is your client a moderate, high, or very high suicide risk?

Question	0	1	2	**Score**
A. External Behavior	No change in communication, academic performance, dress, etc.	Moderate change	Significant change	
B. Self-Esteem	Intact	Low self-esteem, disheveled appearance and/or hygiene	Very low self-esteem; self destructive or self-mutilating behaviors	
C. Support System	Intact	Alienated from some family or friends	Socially unresponsive; alienated from most family or friends	
D. Significant Relationships	Healthy relationships	Moderate relationship problems	Broken relationships	
E. Significant loss and or change	None	Recent death of a friend or pet; health, job, or financial problems	Unresolved loss or death of loved one; loss of job; financial disaster, terminal illness	
F. Depression	Not evident	Moderate; low in energy; not coping well	Severe; apathetic and withdrawn or sudden rise in energy ï a ñhappy depressionò	
G. Will to live	Has purpose/meaning for living	Questions life, afraid of losing control; beginning to feel helpless or hopeless	Consistent thoughts and feelings of helplessness	
H. Substance abuse; alcohol, drugs, food, etc.	None known	Alcohol and drug use moderate; social use; over-eats or under-eats	Alcohol/drug use heavy; addiction; bulimic, anorexic	
I. Family suicides, friends, or others	None	Distant family member; not known well	Immediate family member; loved one	
J. Frequency of suicidal thoughts	No thoughts of suicide	Isolated, with periods of persistence; has had prior thoughts but did not attempt	Constant and persistent	
K. Prior attempts	None Known	One attempt	Wished it had been successful	
L. Method of suicide	No method considered	Considering methods	Has decided on a method and/or has access to a method	
M. Development of plan	No plans	Thoughts just beginning to develop	Thoughts becoming specific; giving away possessions	

Scores: 3-6	**7-10**	**10+**	**TOTAL SCORE**
Moderate risk; further assessment recommended	High risk; Begin intervention procedures	Very high risk; Crisis situation; Immediate intervention necessary	