ST. FRANCIS DESALES
HIGH SCHOOL

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.℠

October 19, 2026

Dear Parent or Guardian:

St. Francis DeSales, in collaboration with Nationwide Children's Hospital, is providing a training for the sophomores called Signs of Suicide. The Signs of Suicide® Prevention Program (SOS) is a school-based suicide prevention program supported by SAMHSA. The goal of the curriculum is to prevent and reduce suicidal behavior by expanding the safety net for students experiencing mental and emotional distress. The training uses a video to help guide classroom discussions.

Students are trained to recognize warning signs of suicide in a friend as well as an appropriate response. Additionally, students are provided the opportunity to speak to a school counselor if they are concerned about their own emotional well-being. Screening to assess for depression and suicide risk is also a part of the curriculum. In cooperation with parents, students may be referred for professional help as needed.

SOS is a nationally-known suicide prevention program that parents and schools have found to be a very positive experience. It reduces the stigma of depression and lets students and adults know that they are capable of helping students in need of support. There is clear evidence that using a prevention program like SOS lowers the risk of a child making a suicide attempt and does not put the idea in a child's mind. However, we always respect parents' rights to choose what is best for their child.

If you do NOT wish for your child to participate in the SOS Prevention Program, please complete the form below and return it to Sharon Murphy, Ph.D. or your student's school counselor, by October 28, 2026.

If we do not hear from you, we will assume your child has permission to participate in this program.

Return this form only if you do NOT want your child to participate in the SOS program.

Child(ren) Name:_____ Grade(s):_____ Date:_____

Parent Name:_____ Parent Signature_____

_____ I do **NOT** want my child to participate in the SOS program.

Revised MF 12-23-16