

Senate Education Committee

Hearing SB333 Amendments Opponent

February 8th, 2018

Dear Senate Education Committee Members,

My son, Jacob Wessel, died on Monday morning, April 19th, 2010 by suicide at the age of 15.

After his funeral, one of his teachers told me that she had talked to him on Saturday and could tell there was something wrong with him. She asked him what was wrong, he said nothing and that was the end of the conversation. She stated that she did not know what questions to ask.

How do you carry on a conversation with a 15-year-old who appears depressed? One hour of training may have helped her have that conversation, a conversation she regrets not having. One hour a year, in front of a computer, at no cost, could save lives.

Thank you for taking the time to read this,

Mark Wessel