**Brock and Sandoval’s (1996) Student Interview Model for Suicide Risk Screening**

**Engagement**
- It seems things haven’t been going so well for you lately. Your parents and/or teachers have said________________________. Most teens/children would find that upsetting.
- Have you felt upset, maybe some sad or angry feelings you’ve had trouble talking about? Maybe I could help you talk about these feelings and thoughts?
- Do you feel like things can get better, or are you worried (afraid, concerned) things will just stay the same or get worse?
- Are you feeling unhappy most of the time?

**Identification**
- Other teenagers/children I’ve talked to have said that when they feel that sad and/or angry, they thought for a while that things would be better if they were dead. Have you ever thought that? What were your thoughts?
- Is the feeling of unhappiness so strong that sometimes you wish you were dead?
- Do you sometimes feel that you want to take your own life?
- How often have you had these thoughts? How long do they stay with you?
- Administer the Suicidal Ideation Questionnaire (Reynolds, 1988) or the Hopelessness Scale for Children (Kazdin et. al., 1986) to further qualify and/or quantify the seriousness of the student’s suicidal thinking.

**Inquiry**
- What has made you feel so awful?
- What problems/situations have led you to think this way?
- Tell me more about what has led you to see killing yourself as a solution.
- What do you think it would feel like to be dead?
- How do you think your father and mother feel? What do you think would happen with them if you were dead?
- As appropriate, administer items from the Mental Status Exam (Davis & Sandoval, 1991).

**Assessment**

**Current Suicide Plan**
- Have you thought about how you might make yourself die?
- Do you have a plan?
- On a scale of 1 to 10, how likely is it that you will kill yourself? When are you planning to or when do you think you will do this?
- Do you have the means with you now, at school, or at home?
- Where are you planning to kill yourself?
- Have you written a note?
- Have you put things in order?

**Prior Behavior**
- Has any one that you know of killed or attempted to kill themselves? Do you know why?
- Have you ever threatened to kill yourself before? When? What stopped you?
- Have you ever tried to kill yourself before? How did you attempt to do so?

Resources
- Is there anyone or anything that would stop you?
- Is there someone whom you can talk to about these feelings?
- Have you or can you talk to your family or friends about suicide?

Summary
- Use a suicide risk assessment worksheet (e.g., Poland, 1989) to summarize the information gained during the interview(s).