

## Team Leadership

### Team Coordinators

**Brian Skogen**  
School Social Worker, Canby

**Shelley Buntjer**  
School Counselor, Lakeview

### Executive Committee Members

**Renee Guy**  
School Psychologist, Luverne

**Jason Kratochvil**  
School Psychologist, SWWC

**Sue Magnuson**  
School Counselor, Glencoe-Silver Lake

**Michelle Mortensen**  
Superintendent, Renville County West

**Rick Loseth**  
Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker

**Lynn Mickelsen Dwyer**  
School Social Worker, New London-Spicer

## Team Mission

The SWWC School Crisis Response Team provides support, guidance and resources to schools during and after a serious loss.



## Contact Us!

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brian.skogen@canbylancers.org

If unable to reach Brian, contact:  
**Shelley Buntjer**  
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*The School Crisis Response Team was very valuable with students and staff members when we experienced the loss of a staff member. It can be quite difficult to navigate these situations when we know the staff member personally. They worked side by side to help our staff ensure all were supported, including supporting our own district crisis support team. The additional resources and variety of perspectives made the difficult task much easier.*

**Richard Schneider, Superintendent**  
**Yellow Medicine East ISD #2190**

# SWWC

## SCHOOL CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM

Contact us when your school experiences a student or staff death due to accident, illness, suicide or other tragic event.

We can provide support and assistance to help restore the emotional well-being of your school.



[www.swwc.org/SCRT](http://www.swwc.org/SCRT)

## Who Are We?

- We are a team formed in 2011 as a voluntary partnership between school districts and SWWC.
- We are specially trained in school crisis response, aka Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM).
- We work as school counselors, school psychologists, social workers, teachers, school nurses, and other related positions in school districts throughout the 18 counties of southwest and west central Minnesota.

## Why Call Us?

- We know your district has a crisis emergency plan in place to deal with fire, tornado, intruders, etc. **The SCRT is different.**
- We help when your school experiences a student or staff death due to accident, suicide, illness or other tragic event. We really should be called a “school tragedy response team”.
- We know that in times of great tragedy, your staff may be profoundly impacted by the event and unable to provide the necessary support to students. We can keep your “walking wounded” from serving as caregivers.
- We deploy team members who are unattached to your district and without strong emotional ties to the students or staff. This allows them to make decisions more objectively, and counsel groups and support individuals to assist in restoring the emotional well-being of the school.

## How Can We Help?

- When you call us, you gain access to a highly-skilled team that has experience helping districts through serious loss.
- We assign an on-site Team Leader who will lead our coordinated, on-site support for those affected by the tragedy.
- We provide a framework for individuals to begin a healthy grieving process.
- We can identify individuals who may require follow-up services.



*In today's world, the increasing attention given to the need for schools to be prepared to respond to a wide variety of crisis situations has experts in school crisis prevention and intervention emphasizing the importance of having a comprehensive out-of-district School Crisis Team. This expert assistance helps address the safety and mental health needs of students, staff, and families through response and recovery. Crisis events are sudden, uncontrollable, and extremely negative events, such as when RTR had two student deaths in 2019 that had the potential to impact an entire school community. We received an organized and carefully coordinated response from the SWWC School Crisis Response Team to help meet the needs of our district-wide affected individuals.*

*Although it is important to have an in-house building-level crisis team and ensure that local school resources are the primary providers of crisis team assistance, these regional crisis response teams are extremely important because they have members with more advanced knowledge, expertise, and access to additional resources. Also, as in our situation, our local caregiver(s) knew these two students and were affected greatly by the situation which complicated our ability to respond adequately to the crisis. The RTR School District was greatly blessed to have such a team of experts to help our community move forward through that terrible tragedy.*

**David A. Marlette, Superintendent, RTR ISD #2902**