

# Crisis Script: Read to Students

**This can be used as a script to be read simultaneously to students in the event of a campus community death:**

**THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO TEACHERS AND OTHER STAFF TO READ TO STUDENTS AT A DESIGNATED TIME TO SHARE WITH THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY (E.G., HOMEROOM OR FIRST/SECOND PERIOD).**

It is with sadness that I tell you about a loss to our school family. On [DATE], [NAME OF DECEASED] [INSERT FACTS ABOUT DEATH].

I understand that many of you may have upsetting feelings and questions about [NAME OF DECEASED]'s death. I will try to answer any questions that I can. If you would like, we will take some time to talk about what has happened. At times like this, it is okay to have many different feelings, including sadness, anger, and disbelief. It is okay to cry. Together, we can talk about whatever you may be feeling or want to talk about. Some of you may have known [NAME OF DECEASED] and some may not. Even people who didn't know them may be affected by this news. That's normal. We all have our own experiences that have brought us where we are today, and this news may be triggering to some.

If I can not answer your questions, or you would like to talk to someone privately, there are support rooms now available [LOCATION OF SUPPORT ROOM(S)]. Anyone who would like to go to talk to someone in the support rooms may do so now. I will give you a pass.

[DETERMINE WHICH STUDENTS WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE FOR A SUPPORT ROOM. ASK THE REMAINING STUDENTS IF THEY HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS THEY WOULD LIKE TO SHARE. TAKE TIME TO ANSWER AND TO TALK AS THE STUDENTS' DESIRE.

IF THERE IS NOT LENGTHY DISCUSSION, CONSIDER QUIET SEAT WORK RATHER THAN LESSON PLANS AS USUAL. AVOID LESSONS FOCUSED ON DEATH OR GRIEF FOR THE NEAR FUTURE.]

*\*\*It is important to give as much information as you have and that is appropriate in order to dispel rumors. Seek guidance from other officials before disclosing a suicide. Generally, that information should not be revealed. However, each situation should be assessed individually.*