SCHOOL NAME Script for Teachers

A guideline for announcement to students.

Today we have some tragic news to share with our school community. We learned that one of our students, STUDENT NAME, died by suicide DATE.

When things like this happen, people have all different kinds of reactions, like shock, sadness, fear and anger. Those reactions may rise and fall throughout the day, and even for days or weeks to come. Some of us will want to have quiet time alone and others may want time to talk with peers or adults. Some of you who didn’t know NAME may be ready for your teachers to return to academics sooner than others; we all just need to practice patience and have respect for each other.

We can take some time to talk about this today and in coming days. While some of you will be ready to return to class work, others may still wish time to talk or think about this news.

Students wanting to make cards for the family, talk with one another, or needing more time alone to think and talk about the impacts of this tragedy may go to the drop in room which is in the LOCATION OF QUIET ROOM, and has been set aside for that purpose. There will be staff in the room for support, and access to counsellors.

***It is important that all students be in some setting that has an adult present.***

For those of you who wish to talk one-on-one with a school counsellor, please go to the drop in room, and you will then be connected once a counsellor is available. The school day will remain on schedule, but teachers in any class may suspend regular classroom activities in order to allow you to talk about this event as a group.

At this point, we do not have any information from the family about a memorial event, but will share any information we receive with our school community. There will be a school memory event next week, so that as a school, we can acknowledge STUDENT NAME’S death. This information will also be shared, once we know more.

Please look out for each other, and let the adults in the building know if there is any student who needs additional support. Also, please respect STUDENT NAME’s family and close friends and their tremendous grief, by avoiding social media speculation and gossip. We hope that we can find comfort and support in our school community as we process this upsetting, difficult news.