

A Map of the Unfolding of More “Usual” Crises and Tragedies Related to Schools

Keep in mind that the timelines are approximate – for instance, the number of days between the onset of grief and turning the corner back toward “normalcy” will vary from one event to the next based on many unpredictable factors. These timelines are meant to give some sense of process.

	Day One	Day Two	Day Three and . . . moving toward	Ongoing
<u>Response Efforts:</u>	Announcement Comfort, stability Family Contact -- Flexibility in academics -- providing a short “time out” while kids come to grips with the loss...	SafeRoom, Memorial Planning Continued Information Dissemination	Memory Activity	Stabilization if things go well
<u>Ambiance and reactions:</u>	Shock, denial Anxiety, fear Hallways may be quiet, subdued behavior except for a few who may use opportunity to “spin out” and act out Some students who have suffered a family death may struggle with their loss (this becomes a trigger for them)	More openly grieving as shock wears off Difficulty sleeping for some, difficulty talking about it for some,		Begin to yearn for return to normalcy
<u>Student reactions and needs:</u>	Shock, denial, anxiety, fear Crying, silence Clear information Chance to talk Exclusivity may surface (“You didn’t know him, you don’t have the “right” to grieve with us...”) Use of SafeRoom --- continued use of SafeRoom ---- Possible continued use of SafeRoom after memory activity ---	May want to engage in planning for memorial activity, cards to family Student need for peer contact, Need for social aspect of grieving		Participate in Memory Activity Some students just want a return to “normalcy” Begin giving the event meaning.
<u>Staff needs and Reactions:</u>	Clear information on what happened Support, intervention -- chance to talk as a group once or twice a day, decreasing over time Relief from classroom Latitude in letting them handle the class process -- flexibility	Acknowledgement of their efforts	To attend and possibly to give input on Memory Activity	Ongoing debriefings

