

## DEATH OF A STUDENT #2

(Date)

On (day), (date), we were informed of the death of one of our students, (student name). At this writing we have no further information or details concerning this tragedy.

In discussing (first name of student) with staff, it was clear that he/she was a very special young person, extremely bright, capable and personable. He/she was quick to connect with both young people and adults, with his/her gregarious manner and approach to others. (first name of student) always had a twinkle in his/her eye and was ready to laugh. Those of us who knew him/her well are going to miss him/her dearly.

It is difficult to accept the unexpected loss of such a young person. Death strikes each of us differently based on our relationship to the individual we lost. We encourage you to discuss (first name of student)'s death with your child, as appropriate. Please be aware that children respond to tragedy or grief in different ways. Some may experience a rush of feelings right away, while others may be in a state of disbelief for a while and may just appear dazed and confused. Some may initially be very angry or fearful, while others may be so uncomfortable with their feelings that they act silly or giggly, even though they are hurting inside. All of these reactions are normal ways of dealing with grief. Recognize that your child may need to just "be there" for a few days, while they are working through these different feelings.

Counseling support will be available through (school name). (name of head counselor) and other counselors will be available throughout the next week, if assistance is needed for your family in coping with this tragedy.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call (school name) at (phone number). (first name of student)'s family and friends are suffering deeply. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

(Principal name)  
Principal