Death of a Community Member

In the event a Freire Charter School community member should die, the school will put the following procedures into place to support the community:

- Parents will be alerted to the situation by a letter from the administration.
- This communication will include:
    - An outline of all supports that the school will provide for community members.
    - Details of how community members can access the supports.
    - When and where these supports will be provided.
    - Any alterations to the school schedule in order to provide these supports.
- Grief counseling will be available to all community members who wish to participate.
    - The details of this support will be provided in the communication to parents.
    - The school's counselors will be used as the primary resource for grief counseling.
    - The school will utilize the following resources if we cannot adequately support grief counseling in-house:
        - The Center for Grieving Children, Teens, and Families: (215) 744-4025
        - The City of Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Mental Retardation Services Mobile Emergency Team (MET): (215) 685-6440
- The school will make accommodations for any community members who wish to attend funeral services or memorial services planned by the family of the deceased.
    - The school will provide support and counseling for community members immediately before and immediately following the funeral or memorial services.
    - Freire will continue to provide ongoing personal and group support for grieving community members for as long as community members require the services.

Memorial Policy

The School prohibits physical memorials such as stuffed animals, candles, etc. because they can create a safety hazard. The school will always work with community members in order to find a meaningful way to remember the deceased.