

5029
Crisis Response Policy

- I. **The following objectives apply to dealing with a crisis situation:**
- A. Ensuring the safety and emotional security of students.
 - B. Formulating a plan of action immediately that provides uniformity in the treatment of each crisis.
 - C. Identifying those students and staff who will likely be most strongly affected by grief.
 - D. Preserving, to the extent possible, the daily school routine and pre-scheduled activities so as not to draw others into deeper levels of grief than they would normally experience.
 - E. Monitoring students' progress through the stages of the grief process.
 - F. Making the school's resources available to parents and guardians who become concerned about their child's reaction to a crisis.
- II. **Policy**
- A. **School Hours**
 - 1. During a crisis situation, the administration will maintain established school hours and proceed with all co-curricular activities as scheduled whenever possible.
 - 2. If, during a crisis situation, the parent(s) or guardian of a student, decide that the student needs to be absent, this absence will be excused.
 - B. **Access to School Facilities**
 - 1. In recognition that schools are designed primarily to support learning, the school's facilities may not be used for funeral or memorial services.
 - 2. This policy does not discourage the presentation of traditional memorial services, which promote patriotism.

C. Memorials

At times, in the immediate aftermath of a crisis or death, memorials are proposed without full consideration of the potential implications for students, staff, families, and the community.

1. Temporary memorials at school, as approved by the school principal, may be displayed until the day of the funeral, at which time, will be offered to the family of the deceased.
2. Requests to memorialize an individual or event during a school sponsored activity must be approved by the school administration and may not detract from the activity or planned purposes of scheduled classes or the scheduled event.
3. Permanent memorials for deceased students and staff are limited to endowments, scholarships, books, or items with educational significance. Such items may include a small label with the words, "Donated in memory of", the deceased name, and that of the donating party. Examples of permanent memorials that are not acceptable include: plaques, statuary, plantings, or those that require the retirement or discontinued use of school property. The school district reserves the right to accept or decline all permanent memorials.
4. Dedications in the school yearbook are subject to approval by the school district and limited to the publically purchased (parent) pages of the publication.
5. Memorials established prior to the adoption of this policy are not affected by this policy.

Adopted on: June 14, 2010

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____