

DEATH OF STUDENT - ACCIDENT

(State purpose of letter)

It is with a great deal of sadness that I am informing you of the death of one of our students. This tragic event has affected the entire school and I wanted you to be informed so that you will know what happened in order to discuss it with your child.

(Describe the situation.)

Yesterday afternoon, one of our third grade students was let off the bus and while crossing the street to go home, was struck by a car. The bus driver immediately called 911, but the student sustained extensive injuries and died while en route to the hospital.

(Describe what was done.)

We are shocked and saddened by this tragic event. We have made grief counselors available to anyone in our school community. Additionally, counselors have been assigned to the third grade classrooms to assist the teachers and students. These counselors will remain in place for the rest of the week.

(Describe what parents can do.)

We wanted all parents to be aware of the situation so that you can discuss this with your child. There is no way to predict how this tragedy might affect your child, but changes in behavior might be a signal that your child may need assistance to deal with the death of a friend. The following suggestions come from the Kentucky Center for School Safety. They are, in part:

- Talk with your child about his/her feelings about the tragedy; share your feelings too
- Talk about what happened; give your child information he/she can understand
- Reassure your child that they are safe; you may need to repeat this reassurance often
- Listen and comfort your child often

Please contact the school at 555-5555 you feel that further follow-up with your child would be helpful.

(Close letter)

Thanks for your support as we move forward. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family during this time of loss and grief.

Sincerely,