

CLASSROOM ANNOUNCEMENT

(Actual Example Read and Discussed by Teachers at an Elementary School)

Something has happened over the weekend that we need to talk about. Early Sunday morning, one of our students, XXXXXX XXXXXX, died in a fire. We do not have all the details, but this is what we know so far...a fire started in the middle of the night. Everybody except XXXXXXXXXXXX was able to survive the fire. Some others were hurt, but XXXXXXXXXXXX was hurt too badly and died at the hospital.

We are all upset and it is important to help our friends deal with this sad death. We need to talk to each other, with me, your teacher, to our families, and perhaps with friends like Mrs. XXXXX, our counselor. Our counselor has invited some of her friends from nearby schools to talk with you if you feel the need to.

When we get more information from XXXXXXX's family, we will let you know.

POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS:

Do some of you have questions you would like to ask me about the fire or about XXXXXX?

Did any of you see the fire? Did you see it on TV?

Did any of you know XXXXXX? What do you remember about him?

Did anyone tell me a happy memory they have of XXXXXXX from class or the playground or the neighborhood?