

NORTHEASTERN CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Policy
F-46

Authority
06-155

RESPONSE TO TRAGIC EVENTS

POLICY STATEMENT

Whereas our Catholic school communities are on occasion touched by a traumatic event or crisis that occurs in a family, in the local area or in the broader global environment;

Whereas our Catholic faith calls upon us to be caring family members who attend to the needs of family, school, parish and the wider community;

Whereas the Northeastern Catholic District School Board understands that as empathetic and compassionate human beings, students and staff members may be affected emotionally in response to a tragedy;

Whereas our educators and support staff are called upon to nurture the whole student, including mind, body and soul;

Whereas our educators and support staff can play a critical role in helping students and colleagues cope with a crisis and make sense of a tragedy;

Whereas it is to be expected that such an event may lead to a disruption to the normal operations of the Board and our schools;

Be it resolved that the Board support the implementation of a systematic framework for providing assistance to students or staff in the event of a tragic event.

POLICY REGULATIONS:

1. In order to ensure that processes are in place in the event of a tragic event affecting a student or staff member of the Northeastern Catholic District School, the Board shall develop a Tragic Events Protocol and Procedures.
2. The Tragic Events Protocol and Procedures shall include guidelines on dealing with grief, including liturgical resources.
3. In the instance of a tragic event, the Principal or Administrator shall refer to the Tragic Events Protocol and Procedures.

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4. On an annual basis, the Director of Education shall appoint the members of the Board Administrative Team.
5. The Board Administrative Team shall provide support to the school community through faith-based activities and other strategies to help them work through the grieving process.
6. The Board shall provide appropriate training and/or resources to key personnel who will be part of the Board Administrative Team and/or the school nuclear team.
7. Upon request by a Principal or Administrator, the Director of Education shall be empowered to authorize the deployment of the Board Administration Team.
8. In September of each year, the Principal shall review the Tragic Events Protocol and Procedures and identify members of the school's Nuclear Team, as outlined in the document.
9. The Northeastern Catholic District School Board shall provide the resources to ensure the proper implementation of the Board's Tragic Events Protocol and Procedures.