## 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.