

Brown bagging it with the School Psychologist

Hello Team Arcadia,

Arcadia is a big place. 1700+ student, staff, parents, grandparents, siblings, etc. Conservatively 5000 people are directly connected to our campus and all the highs and lows occurring in a small town happens here, including loss of a student, or more commonly, suicidal thoughts putting a student in harm's way.

I would like to offer a short professional development opportunity for Arcadia staff related to the following topics:

Loss of a student/ Death of family or friend

School-based support and increased understanding are essential when a student experiences the death of a friend or loved one. While each student will be affected differently depending on his or her developmental level, cultural beliefs, personal characteristics, family situation, and previous experiences, there are strategies that can be helpful in supporting bereaved students. We will discuss issues related to a best practice approach when addressing school wide crisis, small groups (classrooms), and individual students after the loss of someone connected to Arcadia. A general overview of grief theories will be offered in addition to practical interventions for classroom management after the loss of a student.

High risk student behaviors/ Suicidal students

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among school age youth (accidents #1); however, suicide is preventable. Youth who are contemplating suicide frequently give warning signs of their distress. Parents, teachers, and friends are in a key position to pick up on these signs and get help. We will discuss research findings related to high risk behaviors, suicide, and treatment. Special focus regarding teacher legal obligations and maintaining a teacher-student relationship with students at risk of harming themselves.

When: February 1, 2017 11:45-12:30 (Lunch on Wednesday)

Where: Office main conference room, if we need more space we will move to the College and Career Center

No need to RSVP, just come and bring your lunch. No throwing rotten tomatoes.

Rick Dwyer

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