

COVID-19's impact on grief support in school



COVID-19 has greatly exacerbated the grief support crisis in our nation's schools



More than one in four (26%) educators report that a member of their school community (including direct family members of students, teachers or staff) died from the coronavirus



93% of educators agree that childhood grief is a serious problem that deserves more attention from schools



Educators want to do more to support grieving students



91% of educators say that they personally would be interested in participating in bereavement training offered through their school or district



95% of educators say they would like to do more to help grieving students



In the midst of COVID-19, social and emotional support for students is critical



Only 15% of educators said they feel very comfortable addressing students' emotional needs—including anxiety, grief, and/or trauma—that have been caused or intensified by the coronavirus outbreak



Three in four educators (75%) report that COVID-19 has opened their eyes to the immense impact of grief and loss



Nearly all educators (95%) agree that social and emotional support for students has never been more important than it is now

Educators feel largely unprepared to address the “non-death” losses related to coronavirus. These include:

1. A student with a family member or loved one with long-term physical health challenges related to COVID-19
2. A student with a family member or loved one experiencing mental health challenges related to COVID-19
3. A student whose family is experiencing financial insecurity because of COVID-19
4. Students who are feeling uncertain about the future in the wake of COVID-19
5. Students who are facing challenges related to the loss of rituals or milestones because of COVID-19
6. Students who have moved or relocated to a different community because of COVID-19
7. Students who are struggling with their connections to classmates and friends because of COVID-19