

# The state of grief support in schools



## Grief in the classroom is an all-too-common occurrence

When educators were asked how many students each year typically need their support due to the loss of a loved one...



say at least one student needs support



say six or more students need support



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



## Educators want to do more to help grieving students and recognize the importance of social-emotional support



of educators would like to do more to help grieving students



of educators agree that over the past five years, it has become more common for students at their school to seek out emotional support from teachers



## Educators express strong interest in grief training



of educators think that there should be a greater focus on training educators to support grieving students



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

Here are some measures educators have found helpful in preparing a class to support a grieving classmate. These include:

1. Offer students guidance on how to support their grieving classmate
2. Offer a private, one-on-one conversation for students who have questions or concerns
3. Encourage students to reach out to their grieving classmate
4. Hold a class discussion about the death before the student returns to class
5. Devote class time to creating an expression of support for the grieving student
6. Seek input from the students about how the class can commemorate their classmate's loss
7. Utilize a grief-related book for class discussion or read a grief-related book for their class