ATTACHMENT 4.04

CONSIDERATIONS FOR ANNIVERSARIES OF CRISIS EVENTS

As part of the long-term postvention plan, it’s important to consider and prepare for anniversaries and other activating occasions related to the death as these often bring up waves of grief and other big emotions for students and staff.

The SMHT will ensure that anniversary dates are represented on a private calendar so that adequate preparation can take place.

Consider preparing for the following:

• The birthday of the person who died
• The anniversary of the death
• Holidays and holiday breaks
• Athletic or other events in which the deceased would have participated
• The start and end of the school year
• Prom
• Graduation

Consider preparing in the following ways:

• Alert staff to the upcoming anniversary or event that may be associated with the deceased.
• Educate staff that students and staff may experience emotional responses and that is normal.
• Provide staff with Attachment 4.14 and/or Attachment 4.24 of this Toolkit.
• Encourage staff to review annual Suicide Prevention & Awareness (Jason Flatt) training materials regarding recognizing warning signs of suicide and responding appropriately to students who may be at risk or experience severe emotions.
• Provide additional resources that staff may find useful during this time.