

Dos & Don'ts for Conversations with Students about Community Violence

Do	Don't
Do listen with empathy If the student brings the issue up	Don't forget to take care of yourself. Remember to engage in self-care and access the Employee Assistance Program if needed https://capitaleap.org/
Do provide the student with calm reassurance, using what you have learned in your Trauma-Informed Resilient Schools training	Don't ignore your instincts. If you feel a student needs extra assistance, please let your Student Support Team know ASAP.
Do notify parents/guardians if you feel a student reaction warrants this and encourage students to also share with parents.	Don't share any resources/documents that have not been vetted by the CSDA
Do share a list of appropriate community mental health resources with families if the family requests it or you feel it is needed: NYS Hotline and Community Mental Health Resources	
Do be sensitive to the needs of students and families	
Do review CSDA resources to see what can be shared with parents/guardians as needed. The Student Support Services classroom has a wealth of information for CSDA staff. Social Justice Resources	