

Tips for Parents and Teachers in discussing the Brelo case with students.

Don't ignore it. This is a teaching at its best opportunity for discussion.

Don't attempt to explain it to your students before you explain it to yourself: Adults should not process this information, their feelings and thoughts in front of their students. Do what you can to process the parts of this story that bother you the most before you get in front of the classroom. Anger has its place, but you want to be able to offer analysis too – that is the teaching moment.

Don't be afraid to toss your existing lesson plan: For some students, if we don't talk about this, they may only have social media to process this information. Model tolerance and compassion. Provide accurate information.

Do ask students what they want to know -

Do provide helping resources –

CMSD Website will be listing resources throughout the community

Do take note of students with extra stressors –

Major changes in life could include: changes in living arrangements, loss of a significant relationship, death, a recent personal failure

Do take note of students showing signs of depression, helplessness and/or hopelessness

How do you identify with what is happening?

How does it affect you?

What kind of course do you feel your life is on right now: even, upward, downward?

Do you have feelings of depression? Feelings of being desperate?

These students may be showing signs of needing acute care – Do make your Administrator aware and have them contact **CMSD's Rapid Response Desk at 838-2273**

Do take note of students who are talking about physical confrontation –

What are your motivations for confrontation right now?

How do you think it would solve your problem?

What's an alternative to using confrontation?

These students may also be showing signs of needing acute care – Do make your Administrator aware and have them call **CMSD's Safe Schools Hotline at 838-SAFE (7233)**
