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Media Advisory

Violence in the School

WHEN: Wednesday April 9, 2014

WHAT: This morning, students, parents, faculty and the entire community was impacted by violence and crime. When violence and trauma occur it is important to give individuals the chance to talk about the event and learn ways to cope with what they are experiencing. Adults and children need to “vent” and have their experiences and feelings validated by someone who makes it clear that most reactions to terrible events are perfectly normal.

When a traumatic experience occurs, a person’s or community’s sense of safety and well-being can be so damaged that normal ways of coping with things cannot be maintained, or don’t seem to work. After a traumatic experience, victims may have problems that they did not have before the trauma. It is important to remember that unresolved trauma can live on to negatively affect the mental, physical, emotional, financial and spiritual health of individuals and their loved ones – even for years to come.

WHO WE ARE: **Center for Victims is here to help.** Center for Victims is the most comprehensive and inclusive provider of services, advocacy and education for all victims of all crimes in Allegheny County and in Pennsylvania. Incidents of mass violence affect everyone. Center for Victims is available to assist, free of charge, regardless of geographic location. Our trained crisis response team can offer immediate crisis intervention for direct victims, their families, witnesses and the community as a whole.