



Ligonier Valley School District

Maximizing Individual Potential

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Office of the Superintendent

December 27, 2022

Dear Ram Community,

It is with profound sadness that I write this letter to let you know that one of our 6th-grade learners unexpectedly passed away on Tuesday, 12/27. Our condolences and thoughts go out to the family, teachers, and friends of our learner. During this time, as the school community processes the tragic news and copes with grief, we will offer counseling and bereavement support services to all our learners and staff.

A student death is a difficult and challenging situation that can generate a high level of anxiety and distress in some learners. Children may have had no experience in coping with a loss like this and may be confused as to how to handle grief. If you feel that your children are having difficulty, we encourage you to discuss their thoughts and feelings to help them work through their grief or concerns. Please also consider monitoring and discussing your children's communications (social media, phone, e-mail, text messaging) to further assess their potential needs.

The entire staff of the middle school embraces its mission to contribute to our learners' social/emotional development, and we will always be attentive to learners' emotional needs at school. If you feel that your children need to speak to a counselor or other adult prior to returning from holiday break, please do not hesitate to email lvmsrams@lvsd.k12.pa.us. It will be monitored until we return to school on January 3. Counselors will also be available on January 3 to talk about any grief concerns that your children may be experiencing. This is a difficult time for everyone, but I know our learners and staff will be able to lean on each other as they remember their classmate.

Sincerely,

Tim Kantor

Tim Kantor
Superintendent

Paulina Burns

Paulina Burns
LVMS Principal

Maria Baumann

Maria Baumann
LVMS Assistant Principal