January 8, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It is with deep sympathy that I inform you of the recent passing of a staff member at the John F. Parker Middle School. The loss of life is never easy and often difficult for our students to comprehend. The individual lost will always be remembered as a part of our immediate school family and will be deeply missed.

Administrators and staff will be available to assist students grappling with this sudden loss. We will work to ensure our students have the support and resources they need to get through this difficult time. Counselors will be available to assist any student requiring assistance coping with the emotions associated with the loss of a teacher. The loss of life may affect children in many unexpected ways. We ask that parents and guardians monitor your child for any signs of grief or changes in their behavior.

Remember to keep the lines of communication open with your child. It is important to be honest with them and to allow them to express their feelings of grief, anger, and disbelief. Reassure your child that there is always someone they can speak with and that the wide range of emotions they might be feeling is normal.

Please do not hesitate to contact the John F. Parker Middle School at 508.821.1111 should you have any concerns, questions, or need additional assistance. The John F. Parker Middle School faculty and staff are here to provide all the support possible.

Respectfully,

John J. Cabral, Superintendent
Taunton Public Schools