## Morrisville-Eaton Central School District

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Mr. Gregory Molloy
Superintendent

Mr. Matthew Enigk
Business Administrator

Mr. Bryan Fairbrother Elementary Principal and Director of Special Education, Rtl, and Data Mr. Nicholas Rauch Middle/High School Principal



Saturday, February 11, 2023

Morrisville-Eaton Middle/High School Community,

I am reaching out to the Middle/High School Community as a follow up to Mr. Molloy's communication this morning regarding the loss of one of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, Abby Huffine. Abby will be remembered for her wonderful smile and how she greeted everyone she encountered at the Middle/High. Abby's presence will be dearly missed among our school community.

Faculty and staff at the Middle/High School are prepared to do all that we can to support all our students, families, and staff members with Abby's loss. On Monday, February 13 we will hold a moment of silence in Abby's honor during morning forum. We will also take time to remind students that counselors will be available throughout the course of the day in the library to aid those struggling with this loss. Assistance will continue to be available to students and staff through our counseling center for the rest of the week and beyond.

Children and adults will have varying responses to the news of someone's death, even if they did not know the person. Common among responses are sadness, confusion, and anger. Parents, I would encourage you to talk with your child as discussing thoughts and feelings about death is important in helping adolescents work through a loss. Please offer reassurance that whatever your child is feeling, their response is okay.

If you find yourself in need of additional resources as you support your child, or if you have specific concerns related to your child, please email Mrs. Cesta, Counselor for Grades 10-12 at mcesta@mecs.org; Mr. Cantarano, counselor for grades 6-9 at jcantarano@m-ecs.org; or Ms. Kempton, school social worker at skempton@m-ecs.org. I am also available to assist families in securing assistance. I can be reached via email at nrauch@m-ecs.org.

As a school and community our thoughts will be with Abby's family as they grieve her loss.

Thank you,

Nicholas Rauch | Principal Morrisville-Eaton Middle/High School