

# WOODSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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*October 18, 2020*

*Dear Woodstock Families,*

*It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the passing of a member of our school community. Emily Belval, school psychologist at Woodstock Middle School, passed away suddenly over the weekend. Emily dealt with an underlying medical condition over the past year, but you would have never known it. In fact, she continued to eagerly show up to work with her students up until this very Friday.*

*Emily joined our staff in 2018 and worked with students and families at both Woodstock Elementary and Woodstock Middle Schools. She is survived by her parents, Janet and Paul, who live in Tolland, Connecticut.*

*Emily worked closely with Mr. Larson's 5<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom, where she served as their morning meeting teacher. Emily also worked closely with individual students and families at Woodstock Middle School. Mrs. Stringer has been reaching out directly to families, but if you would like us to touch base with your child, please do not hesitate to contact the Woodstock Middle School office at 860-963-6575.*

*These past eight months have been difficult for everyone, and at times we get caught up in our own fears and anxieties, without pausing to take stock of the blessings all around us. In my conversation with Miss Belval's parents, they wanted everyone to know how grateful she was to work with the students and families of Woodstock. It was always her dream to work in such a kind and caring community, and to be able to make a difference however she could.*

*Please remember to give an extra hug to those around you tonight, and try to cherish each moment you can with those your love.*

*Take Care and God Bless,*

*Viktor Toth*

Superintendent

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**Viktor Toth**

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