



October 26, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is with immense sadness that I write to you today to let you know we have lost a treasured member of our Bulldog family. Heather Waibel, who was an integral part of our school and school community, died this morning from injuries suffered in an accident on Route 2 in Edgewater.

Ms. Waibel had been a member of our school staff since 2011. She was an outstanding math teacher who also served as the adviser to our National Honor Society. She was passionate about teaching and inspired a love for math in everyone with whom she interacted.

Students were informed about Ms. Waibel's death today. Counselors and school psychologists were available at our school today for any student or staff member who had a need to talk about their feelings. We will continue to have those resources available for as long as necessary.

Arrangements for Ms. Waibel are incomplete at this time. We will notify students and staff of that information should it be made public. If your child wishes to attend any services, we strongly encourage you to accompany him or her. If the funeral is scheduled during school hours, students who wish to attend will need parental permission to be released from school.

I encourage you to talk openly with your child about this sad event, and to help them understand that it's OK not to have answers to every question. Children learn how to deal with grief by watching adults deal with grief. Please do not be afraid to express your emotions in front of your children. Healthy outlets of emotions can be a valuable lesson for them. Additional resources to assist you and your child can be found at [www.aacps.org/crisisresources](http://www.aacps.org/crisisresources) in the "Dealing with Grief" section near the bottom of the page.

Death is never an easy thing with which to cope, but when it comes so suddenly, it is even more difficult. The close-knit nature of our school and our community is a tremendous asset, and it will sustain us through these difficult times. I know you will keep Ms. Waibel's family in your thoughts and prayers in the difficult days and weeks ahead, and I know I can count on all of us to help each other as well.

After getting input from our students and staff, we made the decision to cancel our Homecoming pep rally that was scheduled for this afternoon. The football game tonight and dance tomorrow night will go on as scheduled.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Feuerherd  
Principal

KF/bm

