

Pat Neudecker - Oconomowoc High School Staff Tragedy Update

From: OASD Alert
To: OASD Alert
Date: 4/27/2008 8:59 PM
Subject: Oconomowoc High School Staff Tragedy Update

Dear OASD Families

Sunday April 27, 8p.m.

We believe it is important to stay connected as a school community as our plans for the next days continue. Our thoughts are focused on remembering our friend and colleague Jennifer Bukosky, OHS associate principal, and her daughter Courtney, fourth grade student at Summit Elementary School. Please keep them and their family in your thoughts.

Our goal for the week is to support our students and staff while maintaining as normal a school environment as possible. While structure is important during stressful times, we also understand the need to be flexible as the week unfolds. We assure you that we will be responsive to the needs of our students.

All schools will be having staff meetings before the school day Monday to prepare staff for the events of the week.

High School

The high school has created a memorial space outside of Mrs. Bukosky's office exterior window. Students may leave remembrances there. Support for students will be available throughout the day. Funeral arrangements are being coordinated with Pagenkopf Funeral Home. A special visitation evening is being held for high school students and their families on Wednesday evening from 4:00-8:00 pm. It is suggested that juniors and seniors attend during the first two hours and freshmen and sophomores during the latter two hours to allow the funeral home the opportunity to accommodate the crowds. OASD staff is being trained and will be available at the funeral home to assist students as they visit.

Every attempt will be made to limit media interruptions during the school day. Please be advised that students may be approached by media while outside of school. We appreciate your assistance in helping your child understand appropriate, respectful responses.

Summit Elementary

Summit staff will assist students throughout the day using an age sensitive approach. District guidance and other student services staff will be available throughout the day. Grades 3-6 classroom teachers will lead discussions with their students about dealing with loss. Grades 4K-2 classroom teachers will not initiate whole class discussions, but instead will address individual students as needed. Funeral arrangement information will be posted to the district's web page when it is available.

All Other Schools

School staff will be available to address student concerns on an as needed basis. We recognize that

while the loss is greatly felt at the high school and Summit Elementary, other students throughout the district may be impacted as well.

Thank you for your cooperation during this difficult time for our school and community.

Sincerely,
Patricia Neudecker PhD
Superintendent

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