



Sad News

1 message

Wed, Oct 28, 2020 at 5:07 PM



DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

October 28, 2020

Dear DCS Staff, Families, and Students,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this message. After a long battle with cancer, Kate Boynton passed away yesterday. Mrs. Boynton was a beloved teacher at Wylie Elementary, a cherished colleague, a parent of three DCS students, and truly a great person. Kate Boynton was known throughout the district and community as a wonderful, caring, and inspiring colleague, neighbor, and friend. For over 20 years, Mrs. Boynton taught hundreds of DCS students to be readers, writers, thinkers, and caring people. We are all better educators and people having watched Mrs. Boynton work with kids and colleagues. She will be greatly missed.

We know that Mrs. Boynton was beloved by many in our district and community. Team Rainbow has been supporting Mrs. Boynton throughout her battle and many others are interested in how to support her family at this time. Further details will be shared once available.

Our district crisis team met this morning and are working to support our colleagues and students.

Any **DCS staff member** who would like support is invited to join each other on Thursday, October 29th at 6:00 p.m. via zoom. Please click this link to [register](#). For guidance on how to talk with students who may be grieving, helpful information is attached.

We know that Mrs. Boynton was beloved by her former students. For **elementary-aged students** who would like to talk, we've arranged an open session with DCS professionals on Thursday, October 29th at 6:30 p.m.. [Access to the meeting is available via this link](#). **Middle and High school students** who would like to talk can join a Zoom session on Thursday, October 29th at 3:00 p.m. [Registration is available through this link](#).

In addition, students at Creekside who are former students of Mrs. Boynton will be contacted for specific sessions with Mrs. Ragnes and Mrs. Charlson. Wylie Elementary will also be contacting former students of Mrs. Boynton for a specific session and support. As always, we encourage any student who needs help to reach out to their counselors.

Resources to support your students include a text-message system to the National Crisis Hotline (crisistextline.org). To access this system, text the message HOME to the number 741741. Also attached are resources for parents to help support your children.

Please take a moment to hug those you love and to support each other through this tragic loss.

Sincerely,

Christopher Timmis, EdD

Superintendent