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District 99, Town of Cicero join forces to host vigil for fire victims

Gathering to honor Liberty Elementary School kindergartner, grandfather who passed away in Feb. 4 Cicero house fire

To display community solidarity during an extremely trying time for members of the Cicero community, Cicero District 99 and the Town of Cicero are teaming up to host a vigil Wednesday, Feb. 5 in honor of five-year-old David Castellanos III and his grandfather, David Castellanos.

David, who was a kindergarten student at Liberty Elementary School, passed away with his grandfather in a fire during the early morning hours of Tuesday, Feb. 4 in their two-story apartment building in the 4700 block of 12th Place.

The vigil will be held Wednesday at 4 p.m. outside of Liberty Elementary School, 4946 W. 13th St.

The event will include remarks from Rodolfo Hernandez, superintendent of District 99; Tom Tomschin, president of District 99's school board; Larry Dominick, town president of Cicero; Dominick Buscemi, fire chief of the Cicero Fire Department; and other school and town officials.

Ismael Vargas, chaplain for the Town of Cicero, will also be at the event to lead attendees in prayer and reflection.

Visitors are encouraged to bring flowers, candles, photographs, stuffed animals and other mementos to show support for the victims and their family.

The vigil is expected to last until 5 p.m.