



KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Excellence

Mr. Jason Schimpf
School Business Administrator

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Patricia Calandro
Assistant Superintendent

June 11, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

It is with profound sadness that I inform you that Andrew Schneider, a sophomore at Kingsway Regional High School, passed away on Friday, June 9th due to an extremely rare medical complication. Andrew was an exceptional young man who loved school and the news of his passing has had an immediate impact on our faculty, staff and students.

We have communicated this tragic news to our faculty and staff on Friday afternoon and have plans to support our students when they return to school on Monday. Be advised that this communication may be the first time your child is learning about Andrew's passing and I want to stress to you that students will have varied reactions to the death of a peer. Any reaction is normal in the grief process and can range from withdrawal, to crying and anger. I encourage you to openly discuss with your child their reactions and feelings regarding the death of Andrew. Special counseling services are being made available to students on Monday and will continue to be available throughout the week.

I am sharing several [resources](#) to help support families, parents, students and staff, which includes [Tips for Supporting Grieving Kids](#) and [Grief Resources](#) made available through the Traumatic Loss Coalition.

If you believe your child needs additional counseling support, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school counselor.

Very truly yours,

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

JJL/svv

Home of the Dragons
