



## **ASHLAND CITY SCHOOLS**

**Ashland High School** • 1440 King Road • Ashland, Ohio 44805 • 419-289-7968 • FAX 419-289-8218

December 17, 2024

Dear Arrow Families,

It is with deep sadness that we write to you regarding a recent loss to our extended school community. We learned this morning that George O'Brien, a student at Ashland Middle School, died unexpectedly. Our hearts go out to George's family as they mourn his loss. Although George was a student at Ashland Middle School, we know that our students at Ashland High School may be impacted as well and would encourage you to share this news with your high school student tonight. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our school counselors if your student needs support.

The loss of a student is a traumatic event, and it is normal for other students to experience intense emotions as they process the loss. Sometimes the emotional reactions appear immediately after the traumatic event, and other times the impact may appear hours, days, and in some cases weeks or months later. The understanding and support of loved ones usually helps these reactions pass more quickly. However, sometimes professional assistance is necessary. This does not imply weakness. It simply means that the emotions were too powerful for the person to manage alone. Below are some numbers you may find helpful if professional outside counseling is needed.

Appleseed Mental Health Center	419-281-3716
<b>Appleseed Crisis Line</b>	<b>419-289-6111</b>
Catholic Charities	419-289-1903
Cornerstone Counseling	419-289-1876
Encompass Christian Counseling	419-289-0970
Ground Work Play Therapy	419-289-4825
National Crisis Hotline	988
National Crisis Text Line	Text HOME to 741741

Information on how to help your child deal with grief and loss is available on our high school website. If you would like additional information or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the school at (419) -289-7968.

Sincerely,

Josh Packard  
Principal  
Ashland High School