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December 11, 2022

Dear KCAA families:

We are heartbroken to have to share the news that one of our staff members, Alex Lorusso, our elementary Restorative Justice Coordinator, passed away suddenly on Friday.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to her family, and we are here to provide whatever support we can for them.

As you can imagine, this news has been very sudden and difficult to process. We will process this loss with our staff and students with the support of a DPS crisis team, and we will have them available to assist students in coping with their feelings and concerns, as needed.

You may wish to discuss further with your student about death and grief. The following signs may indicate that your child is having difficulty, but with time, they should decrease. Signs of stress include:

- Most importantly, marked changes in usual ways of behaving, including decline in school productivity or mood changes
- Changes in sleeping or eating patterns
- Disorganization
- Withdrawing behaviors
- Easily distracted
- Physical symptoms
- Acting out behavior, including aggression
- Passivity or listlessness
- Tearfulness

Our thoughts are with this family at this time. We will provide more information once we receive it.

With sadness and love,

Peter Castillo
Executive Principal