

From: Superintendent
Sent: Monday, October 14, 2013 12:12 PM
To: EPS.MailList
Subject: Bereavement
Importance: High

Dear Colleague,

*Bereavement unravels like a piece of cloth, the fabric of your life. Over time, you will be able to reweave your piece of cloth, but the cloth will have a new pattern. **Unknown***

I once received this message in a card of condolence. The sentiment was comforting at the time and has proven true and even more comforting with more time.

Students, families and staff in our district today are touched in different ways by the tragic and unexpected deaths of a Cascade student on Friday and an Eisenhower teacher on Sunday.

In this work, “caring” is a requirement. We infuse hope and inspire dreams in the students who come to us and generously support and cheer those who work with us. To lose a child, to lose a fine, caring adult, rocks us to the core.

Fourteen-year old Perla Hernandez attended Silver Lake Elementary, Eisenhower Middle and Cascade High before she was taken from us in Thursday’s traffic accident. Mikel Gobel, who died unexpectedly over the weekend, began teaching art at Eisenhower this year. Before earning his master’s degree in 2012, he interned at Cascade High, did his practicum at Everett High and Gateway Middle and worked as a paraeducator in the district from 2009 to 2011.

The fabric of so many lives has been altered with their passing – and the fabric of so many lives was improved by their time with us.

As we learn more about the families’ wishes and memorials, we will share that information with you.

Sorrowfully,

Gary