



**SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**1560 Delmar Drive**  
**Folcroft, PA 19032**

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It is with great sadness that I inform you that a current Academy Park High School student who is also a former Delcroft classmate passed away on July 13th. This loss was unexpected, and we as a school community are grieving.

Death can be difficult for us to understand, especially when it is sudden. All of us will be feeling a variety of emotions such as shock, sadness, and/or confusion. What is most important is that we care for and support each other.

The Southeast Delco School District Crisis Response Team along with our surrounding Mental Health Agencies have made plans to respond to the emotional needs of our students. Support will be available this weekend at Academy Park High School from 10:00 AM through 3:00 PM this Saturday, July 15, 2023, Sunday, July 16, 2023, and 8:00 AM through 1:00 PM on Monday, July 17, 2023. The district will be providing looping shuttle service from Harris, Darby Township, and Delcroft Schools for those students who require transportation to Academy Park High School.

Any time death touches us, it is stressful. If your family has experienced a death or loss recently, the passing of our student may bring up emotions and feelings. This is a normal experience. It is for this reason that we want you to know that Delcroft School and Academy Park High School are here to support your student. Please reach out to your child's school if further assistance is needed.

Sincerely,

Shawn McDougall  
Principal  
Delcroft School  
[smcdougall@sedelco.org](mailto:smcdougall@sedelco.org)

Richard Sherin  
Interim Principal  
Academy Park High School  
[rsherin@sedelco.org](mailto:rsherin@sedelco.org)

**Additional Resources:**

**Peter's Place: Talking to Children about Death**

<https://petersplaceonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Talking-to-Children-About-Death.pdf>

**Friendship Circle: How to Talk to Your Child with Special Needs About Death**

<https://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/2013/08/20/how-to-talk-to-your-child-with-special-needs-about-death/>

**ELUNA: Supporting Grieving Children with Autism Spectrum**

**Disorder** <https://elunanetwork.org/resources/supporting-grieving-children-with-autism-spectrum-disorder>