

# Mohonasen CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

***Draper Middle School***

2070 Curry Road  
Schenectady, NY 12303  
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February 23, 2010

Dear Parents,

A very sad thing has happened within our Mohonasen Community today. Our seventh grade student, Tyler DeMarco, passed away this morning as a result of a long bout with cancer. He was at home resting comfortably, with his family at the time of his passing. We are profoundly saddened by his death. Tyler has left an indelible mark of love with us.

We have shared this information with your children today and have had discussions with students in their last block classes. As a parent, you may want to talk to your child about death, as it impacts each person in different ways. How children react will depend on the relationship they had with Tyler, their age and their prior experience with death. Here are some things to keep in mind:

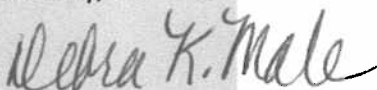
Your child may:

- Appear unaffected
- Ask questions about the death repeatedly
- Be angry or aggressive
- Be withdrawn or moody
- Become afraid
- Have difficulty sleeping or eating

Your child may need more attention than usual. Please call school with questions or concerns. We will have counselors available in school for your child, should they be grieving or need additional support. Once the arrangements are made, please be sure that if your child is attending services, you support them with adult supervision at this very difficult time.

Please remember that our thoughts are with the DeMarco Family.

Sincerely,



Debra K. Male  
Principal