



North County High School

10 1st Avenue E. | Glen Burnie, MD 21061-2018 | 410-222-6970

October 21, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It is with great sadness that I write you today to let you know that we have lost a member of our North County High School family. Walter Brooks, who graduated in May, died this morning after a brief illness.

Walter, who has two sisters who are current NCHS students, was a dynamic presence at North County during his four years here. He was heavily involved in theater productions and was a member of our school's marching band. His outgoing personality helped him develop lasting relationships among fellow students and faculty alike.

Our school had additional counselors on hand today to help students and staff members cope with their grief. We will continue to make counselors available to anyone who feels the need to discuss the situation. Together, we will get through this most difficult time.

I encourage you to talk openly with your children about this situation, and help them understand that it's OK not to have answers to every question. Children learn how to deal with grief by watching adults deal with grief. Please do not be afraid to express your emotions in front of your children. Healthy outlets of emotions can be a valuable lesson for them.

Plans for services for Walter are incomplete at this time. When those arrangements are made, we will have them available in the school office.

I know that you will keep Walter's family in your thoughts and prayers in the days and weeks ahead. Our school is supporting the family as much as possible during this difficult time. If you have questions or concerns, please call the school at 410-222-6970.

Sincerely,

Frank Drazan
Principal

FD/bm