



July 29, 2020

Dear Lindale Middle School and North County High School Families:

As you are almost certainly aware by now, 14-year-old Mo Gaba lost his long and courageous battle with cancer yesterday. Mo's bravery and optimism were an inspiration to all of us. His love of sports – especially the Orioles and Ravens – and his zest for life were contagious, and his ever-present smile was infectious.

We know that you join us in sending your thoughts and prayers to Mo's mother and family during these difficult times. We will do everything we can to support them.

We also want you to know however, that even though schools are closed, our school counselors and other members of the Student Services team remains available to speak with any students who have a need to talk about their feelings about the impact of Mo's death. Should you or your child have that need, please email me Mr. Nash at jl_nash@aacps.org or Mr. Jefferson at ej_jefferson@aacps.org. Email links for all of our administrators and our school's pupil personnel worker can also be found at www.aacps.org/lindalems and www.aacps.org/northcountyhs. We will make sure someone contacts you.

If the need is more urgent, we encourage you to call the Anne Arundel County Crisis Warmline at 410-768-5522. That service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We encourage you to talk openly with your child about this sad event, and to 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. Additional resources to assist you and your child can be found at www.aacps.org/crisisresources in the "Dealing with Grief" section near the bottom of the page.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

John Nash
Principal
Lindale Middle School

Eric Jefferson
Principal
North County High School