

**Matt Nelson**  
*Superintendent*

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# Sanford School Department

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SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Paula Cote, Chair Amy Sevigny, Vice-Chair  
Jennifer Davie Melissa Simpson Kelly Termath

September 11, 2023

Dear Students, Staff and Families,

It is with deep regret that we inform you about the recent death in our school community. Today, Sanford Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade student Chace Fromwiller died after an almost two-year battle with DIPG (childhood cancer).

This loss is sure to raise many emotions, concerns and questions for our entire school department. The Sanford School Department has a Crisis Intervention Team made up of professionals trained to help with the needs of students, parents and school personnel at difficult times such as this. We have counselors available for any student who may need or want help or any type of assistance surrounding this loss.

We have linked information that may be useful in helping your child at home.

<https://www.cgcmaine.org/2019/07/16/how-to-handle-grief/>

<https://www.cgcmaine.org/2019/07/16/supporting-teens-through-difficult-times/>

[Supporting Children Through Loss](#)

If you need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact your school's counseling office.

We are deeply saddened by this loss to our school community.

Matt Nelson



Superintendent of Schools