

**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 Emily Sheffield Melissa Simpson

July 8, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is with profound sadness that I write this letter to inform you that our district learned this morning of the tragic passing of Tavayne Weir, a student at Sanford High School, and his stepbrother Diandre Graham by an accidental drowning. Our sincere condolences and thoughts go out to the students' family and friends.

A student death is a difficult and challenging situation that can generate a high level of anxiety and distress for children and teens to process. During this time, as the school community processes the tragic news and copes with grief, we will offer counseling and bereavement support services to all of our students and staff. A team of counselors will be available to provide support to any student or staff members in need on **Tuesday, July 9, 2024 from 12-2** at Sanford High School.

I encourage you to talk to your child about what has happened. Discussing thoughts and feelings about the situation is important in helping your child work through their grief. Information on how to support your teen can be found [HERE](#).

We are saddened by the loss to our school community and will make every effort to help you and your child as you need.

Matt Nelson

Superintendent