

# MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

415 MAIN STREET, PO BOX 319  
MARGARETVILLE, NEW YORK 12455  
ANTHONY R. ALBANESE, SUPERINTENDENT  
Telephone (845)586-2647  
FAX (845)586-2949

Building Principal  
Linda J. Taylor

Treasurer  
Karen H. Dietrich

November 2, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians/Faculty/Staff and Friends of MCS:

It is with great sadness that I write to you today. Early this morning I was informed that Mr. Dan Cohen, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, passed away suddenly while being stricken at home. Our most sincere thoughts, prayers and sympathy are extended to Dan's wife Kathy, their children and Dan's mother, Mrs. Terry Cohen.

Today's one hour delay at Margaretville Central allowed the faculty and staff the opportunity to share this difficult information concerning one of our colleagues.

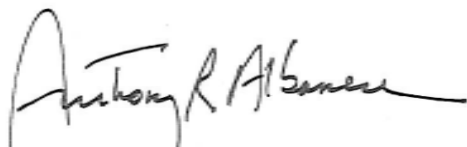
As a group, we also created a safety plan for our students K-12. Students in Pre-K to 4 were supported by their Teachers in their classrooms. Our fifth grade students were supported by our counselors and faculty throughout the day. Students in grade 6-12 were brought together as a group and we spoke about Mr. Cohen fondly. When asked how many students had Mr. Cohen as a Teacher during their time at MCS, many, many hands were raised very proudly. I am certain many parents also would have raised their hand if in the audience today. This was Mr. Cohen's 38th year of being a Teacher at MCS.

We all realize that children and adults deal with trauma in differing ways. Most importantly, providing the time and sensitivity to those wishing to discuss their feelings is important. However, "checking-in" with someone who is silent is important, as well.

I have spoken with Mrs. Cohen and shared our collective sympathy as members of the MCS. Additional information will be shared when it becomes available.

Should you have any questions, please contact my office.

Sincerely,



Anthony R. Albanese  
Superintendent

[talbanese@margaretvillecs.org](mailto:talbanese@margaretvillecs.org)