



The Academies at Roxborough High School

6498 Ridge Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19146
(215) 400-3400

May 25, 2023

Dear Roxborough Community,

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you of the passing of a 9th grade Roxborough student, whose life was tragically lost last night. Our deepest condolences and thoughts go out to the family and friends of this student.

Ours is a tight-knit community, and I know this is difficult news to receive. Death is rarely something that is easy to accept, especially when it involves a young person and particularly during these times as our city grapples with heightened gun violence.

To support the emotional needs of our students, we have counseling and support services available for those who may need assistance coping with this grief. Representatives from the School District of Philadelphia's Emergency/Crisis Response Team, as well as a school-based team of social workers and counselors, will be on-site tomorrow to connect with those who need or want to share any feelings they may be experiencing around this loss.

This sudden death may be quite shocking and confusing for our students. Should you notice any unusual changes in your child's behavior or mood, you can also call or text 1-833-PHL-HOPE (1-833-745-4673) for free support and information. Additionally, we encourage you to speak with your children about the role they play in keeping each other safe. Individuals can submit an anonymous tip through Safe2Say Something, a youth violence prevention program run by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. Tips can be submitted through the website, www.safe2saypa.org or by calling Safe2Say at 1-844-723-2729.

This is a difficult time, but I know our community will be there to support one another as we remember a beloved student and classmate. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns by calling the main office at (215) 400-3400.

Sincerely,

Kristin Williams Smalley
Principal