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TUSCARORA HIGH SCHOOL 5312 Ballenger Creek Pike Frederick, Maryland 21703 240-236-6400 Fax: 240-236-6401

May 2, 2019

Dear Tuscarora Parents/Guardians,

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of Eberson Guerra Sanchez, a 9th grade student at Tuscarora High School. Eberson's remains were found in Washington DC over the weekend. The Washington, DC and Frederick City police continue to investigate the circumstances of his death. We have no reason at this time to believe the circumstances are connected to Tuscarora High School or other students who attend here. The Tuscarora Titan community extends our heartfelt sympathy to the Guerra Sanchez family and friends of Eberson during this sad time.

In light of these events, I made a PA announcement this morning to inform all students and staff about Eberson's death. Members of the FCPS crisis team, including school psychologists and school counselors, are at the school to answer questions and support individual students and staff with the grieving process, and will be available as needed in the upcoming days.

Please encourage your child to ask for help and for the opportunity to speak with a counselor or school psychologist, if necessary. Support from the team, in addition to school counselors, will continue to be available to those students and staff who may have difficulty coping with their feelings of loss. Students who experience difficulty outside of school hours may wish to contact the following agencies:

- The Frederick County Hotline offers counseling, community resources, and crisis intervention if necessary. Dial 2-1-1 from a landline or (301) 662-2255 or call toll free at 1-800-422-0009.
- The Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline offers counseling and additional community resources. Call toll free at 1-800-422-0009.

If your child questions you about this situation, you can provide support by being open and willing to listen. Situations such as this may create a variety of reactions ranging from no response, to concern, to many questions. Here are some suggestions for dealing with concerns your child may have:

- Listen to your child. You may not have all the answers to his/her questions, but your child will benefit from your attention.
- Provide structure to assist your child in returning to as much of a normal routine as possible.
- Talk to your child about your personal value system regarding death or loss.
- It is important to keep the lines of communication open. Please feel free to contact our school counselors, school psychologist, and /or administrators for additional guidance and support.

Funeral arrangements are not known at this time. Once we understand the family's wishes, we will inform you when more information becomes available. We realize the importance of respecting Eberson and his family's privacy, and request that families be mindful of social media activity during this difficult time. Please join us in extending heartfelt condolences as we keep Eberson's family in our thoughts and prayers in the days and weeks to come. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at Tuscarora at 240-236-6400.

Sincerely,

Christopher S. Berry

Principal

Tuscarora High School