

LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office the Superintendent

Dr. Rocco Tomazic
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Marlene Berghammer
Board President



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February 11, 2023

Dear Linden School Community,

I have exceptionally sad news to relay. Yesterday we learned of the tragic death of one of our students, Ariel Rivas Rosado, a 5th grader at School No. 4. Ariel was ten years old. He was the son of our Linden Board of Education member Dayanara Rosado Quezada and our former Board President Carlos Rivas, who is now the 5th Ward Councilman in Linden.

We are all devastated by this news. We have activated our district crisis response plan. On Monday we will have grief counselors available at School No. 4 to help our students and staff process this loss, and we will have counselors at McManus Middle School where Ariel's sister attends school. Although we pray that occurrences like this never happen, we understand such a loss may raise emotions, concerns, and questions for our entire school community, especially our students. Our counselors will help students and staff process their grief.

When such an unspeakable tragedy occurs, we all come together to offer support to the family and to give comfort to each other. Each of our students is precious beyond words. This loss impacts us all. I have been in contact with Mayor Armstead, who will be working together with the district to help us collectively get through this tragedy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rocco G. Tomazic".

Rocco G. Tomazic
Interim Superintendent