



WALL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

P.O. Box 1199 • 18th Avenue

Wall, NJ 07719

Dr. Tracy Handerhan
Superintendent of Schools

November 9, 2023

Dear WTPS Community,

I know I represent the entire WTPS family in expressing how saddened we are upon hearing the news regarding Jillian Ludwig, WHS Class of 2023. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Jillian's family and friends. Our District has assembled the school crisis teams to respond to our community's needs. Care stations staffed with District and Mental Health Association (MHA) counselors will be available at Wall High School today (11/9) and tomorrow (11/10). The schedule is as follows:

Today, Thursday, November 9:

Wall High School: Media Center, entry through the main entrance,
Sessions: 1:30 PM, 2:30 PM, and 3:30 PM

Tomorrow, Friday, November 10:

Wall High School: Media Center, entry through the main entrance,
Sessions: 11:00 AM, 12:00 noon, and 1:00 PM

Loss of life is a difficult issue for everyone. Your needs, our students' needs, and the needs of the Class of 2023 are our priorities as we support the navigation of a painful time for the entire school community. As you recall, last night the District sent vetted resources and information to families. They are included at the bottom of this letter. However, an additional resource is included as we believe it is relevant to our circumstances; [click here](#) to access this new digital resource.

Last night, I witnessed this community coming together. I cannot stress enough the importance of the power of unity. Our students, your children's wellness is imperative. Should you believe there is a need for additional supports for a child/young adult in our community, please review the around-the-clock resources provided below. Additionally, please share these specific concerns with the appropriate building administration or counseling staff.

With my deepest sincerity,

Tracy R. Handerhan
Superintendent of Schools

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- [Youth Helpline: 2nd Floor](#): 2nd Floor is a confidential and anonymous helpline for New Jersey's youth and young adults 888-222-2228.



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- [NJ Hopeline](#): Specialists are available for confidential telephone counseling and support 24 hours a day, 7 days per week 855-654-6735.
- [Children and Youth Behavioral Health Reference Guide- Monmouth County](#)

ARTICLES

- [SAMHSA Coping with Grief](#)
- [How to Talk to Children About Difficult News](#)
- [How to Talk with Kids About Tragedies & Other Traumatic New Events](#)
- [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Families and Educators](#)