

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians;

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the death of Ms. Jen McTavish, a beloved and longstanding member of our Margaret Avenue teaching staff who passed away from cancer this morning. Ms. McTavish was an outstanding math teacher who connected learning to the real world and continued to be a learner herself as she worked tirelessly to meet the needs of her students. She lived her life “above the line” and encouraged and expected her students to do the same. She will always be remembered for her charismatic, positive and optimistic nature, and her quick wit. She touched students, staff and community members’ hearts in many ways, as a friend, a colleague and a leader. We will miss Ms. McTavish’s ready smile and her many contributions to our school community.

We have shared the news of Ms. McTavish’s passing with our students this afternoon. Our flag has been lowered to half-mast. Members of the Board’s Critical Events Response Team have also been in our school in order to assist students and staff in a variety of ways. While at home, be prepared to respond to questions that your son or daughter may have regarding this sad happening.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Ms. McTavish’s family and friends. Funeral arrangements are unknown at this time. Please refer to our website for any further information. Please do not hesitate to call the school (519-578-1910) if you have any questions or if your son or daughter needs support. In addition, the following are helpful if assistance is needed: <http://hospicewaterloo.ca/> and <http://copingcentre.com/>.

Sincerely,

Nelson Cuthbert
Temporary Principal

Rita Givlin
Vice-Principal