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April 9, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It was with shock and great sadness that we learned of the tragic accident on Friday involving the Humboldt Broncos hockey team. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those impacted by this heartbreaking event, including the players, team officials, parents, friends, community members and fans. As a school division, we have offered our sympathy and support to our neighbours, Horizon School Division, which includes the City of Humboldt.

As a school division, Prairie Spirit is doing everything we can to support our students, staff and communities through this tragedy. A team of professionals has been mobilized to a number of our schools to support the grieving students and staff.

An event like this touches many lives and has a significant impact throughout the province and beyond. With our strong sense of community both in Prairie Spirit and in our province, I know we will support each other through this difficult time.

It is common for children to ask questions or express anxiety about tragic events. I want to reassure you that these discussions will be handled sensitively by our staff. Our teachers and counselling staff are prepared to offer support and assistance to students as needed.

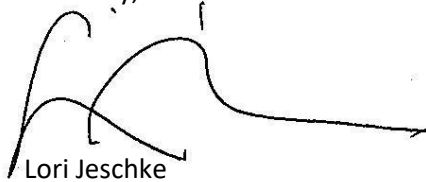
If I may, I would offer the following advice to you as parents and caregivers:

- **Listen to your child**
It's important to listen to your child's concerns. Create an environment that allows your child to express feelings and ask questions.
- **Reassure your child**
Reinforce the caring and supportive relationships we share with one another. Put your child's fears into proportion. Some children may feel comforted by a regular routine and may not wish to discuss the events.
- **Allow your child to express emotions**
Children may wish to talk about the incident and/or draw, write cards or express their emotions.

- **Respond to reports from the media and also to posts on social media**
Consider limiting exposure to media reports and social media, particularly for young children. With older children, take the opportunity to watch some media reports together, discuss what you see and hear on social media and answer any questions your child might have.
- **Seek support**
If you feel that your child would benefit from more support, please contact your school's principal and arrangements will be made for your child to meet with one of our counsellors.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your school principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lori Jeschke', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lori Jeschke
Director of Education