



August 19, 2015



Dear Wootton families,

It is with a profound sense of sadness that I write to inform you that Dr. Michael Doran, the principal of Thomas S. Wootton High School for the past 12 years, has died. Dr. Doran was found unresponsive in his Bethesda apartment this morning and declared dead shortly after. A cause of his death has not been determined.

This news is shocking to all of us who have known and worked with Dr. Doran during his long, distinguished career in education. Dr. Doran has worked in Montgomery County Public Schools for 18 years and his career in education spans more than four decades. His boundless energy, engaging wit, and unwavering commitment to excellence for his students and staff made him a beloved part of the Wootton and MCPS communities.

As we try to comprehend this sudden loss, I know that many of our students will feel a sense of grief and will have questions. Counselors will be available at Wootton High School throughout the week to provide support to our students. We also will be working with our Employee Assistance Program to provide support to Dr. Doran's colleagues at Wootton High School.

We will share more information as it becomes available, including funeral arrangements and ways in which we can honor Dr. Doran's significant impact as an educator and school leader. While this loss is extremely difficult for those of us who knew Dr. Doran, we will work closely with the school leadership, staff, and parents to ensure that Wootton High School is ready to open its doors on August 31 and provide an outstanding education to every student.

I know you join me in keeping Dr. Doran's family, colleagues, students, and friends in our thoughts and prayers.

With regards,

Larry A. Bowers  
Interim Superintendent of Schools

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Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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850 Hungerford Drive, Room 122 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850 ♦ 301-279-3381