

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Harmony School

100 Murphy Road, Middletown, New Jersey 07748
(732)671-2111 FAX (732)671-3449
www.middletownk12.org/Domain/10

William O. George III, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Erik M. Paulson
Principal

January 3, 2016

Dear Harmony Family,

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you that Mr. John Chambers, our daytime head custodian, passed away over break. Mr. Chambers, or "Mr. John" as the students referred to him, was a dedicated staff member who loved working at Harmony. He was often the first face children would see in the morning and during the lunch periods. John loved working with our students, staff, and PTO to ensure our daily operations ran safely and smoothly.

"Mr. John" was a life-long resident of Middletown and went through the public school system. Prior to working in the school system, John owned and operated his own landscaping/hardscaping business. John was married to Melissa Chambers who is a paraprofessional at Harmony.

This unexpected tragedy will have a ripple effect in our community as we return to school tomorrow morning. The Board of Education, district administration, and I have coordinated efforts to ensure that extra counselors will be on sight tomorrow to support our community. It is critical to remember that children deal with tragedies/death differently than adults. Giving your child an outlet such as drawing or talking is a simple way to let them express their feelings. Our day will run as scheduled tomorrow with extra counseling supports for those that need it. Please keep Melissa and the Chambers family in your thoughts and prayers.

Sadly,

Mr. Paulson