

Dear Corinth Families:

It is with profound sadness that I write to all members of the Corinth Community. Briaunna Slimmer, a Corinth High School sophomore, and her mother, Tonya Jeremias, passed away today as a result of injuries sustained in a house fire.

Briaunna has been a member of our school community since kindergarten. She will always be remembered as a polite, hard-working and respectful young lady. Briaunna was also a member of the Leo Club and excelled in Chorus and Cross Country.

The loss of a student is a difficult and challenging situation that can generate a high level of anxiety and distress in students. During this time, as the school community processes this tragic news and copes with grief, the School District will offer counseling and bereavement support services to all of our students and staff. Counselors will be on hand at all schools for students and staff who need support. If you would like to speak with a counselor, please call [\(518\) 654-9005, Extension 3450](tel:(518)654-9005).

I encourage parents and guardians to talk with their children about this tragic event. Discussing thoughts and feelings about this situation is important in helping your child work through his or her grief. We would also like to share the attached link of resources from the American Psychological Association for coping: <http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/grief.aspx>. Our condolences and thoughts go out to the Slimmer family.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Stratton