Dear Franklin Square Families and Staff,

It is with deep sadness that we share the tragic news of the passing of Mr. Joseph Lewinger, Board Trustee and Washington Street School parent, who passed away last night at the age of 42 due to complications from Covid-19. While we cannot be together during this most difficult time, we know that the entire Franklin Square community will join us in reaching our arms around his wife Maura and three children, Madison, Jack and Maeve, expressing our deepest sympathy and keeping them in our thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Lewinger was elected to the Board of Education in 2015 and served as President of the Board of Education in 2016. Throughout his time on the Board, he was focused on making sure all students were provided with the resources and education they deserved. During his tenure, Mr. Lewinger helped support the introduction of our pre-Kindergarten program, 1:1 iPad initiative as well as helping to approve many other programs and resources for the students, teachers, and staff. Mr. Lewinger cared deeply about our district; he cared deeply about our community; he believed in our kids.

While the loss of any life to this terrible virus is tragic, the passing of one of our own hits us particularly hard. While most of our staff are working remotely, please know that we have a team available to support staff, children, or parents who may need to talk.

There are no arrangements that can be shared at this time; however, we will find a way to properly honor Mr. Lewinger as soon as possible. Until then, we can all honor him by checking in with our families, neighbors, and loved ones during this most difficult time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jared Bloom
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Stephen Toto
Franklin Square Board President