W.R.D.S.B. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION

eUpdate

The Latest Information to Keep YOU Informed



The Educational Assistants Association has lost one of its own. On May 11th, 2020 April Patton passed away surrounded by her loving family, after a six month battle with brain cancer.

April was an Educational Assistant and a valued member of the GCI staff for the past 13 years. Her passion was people. *"When I arrived at GCI, April was one of the first one's to welcome me to the castle. April had a warmth and strength about her that she shared with her students and colleagues."~Karen*

April's kind and caring nature was an asset in the classroom and fostered trusting relationships with the students in her program. *"April was always so encouraging to him. She always told him he would succeed. She will be missed dearly by us and many other lives she touched"~parent*

April volunteered on the GCI Cross Country and Track teams where she coached and encouraged young athletes. In her Life Skills classroom she fostered the work placements for her students, anyone knows this is a job in itself and she rallied the class to feed the entire school with popcorn every Friday at lunch. Whether in class or on the field, April was rooting for you. ***"I'm not sure I would still be an EA if it weren't for April. She is the one who got me through the tough days and showed me how to stick out the tough days and see the rewards when working with this special group of students."~coworker***

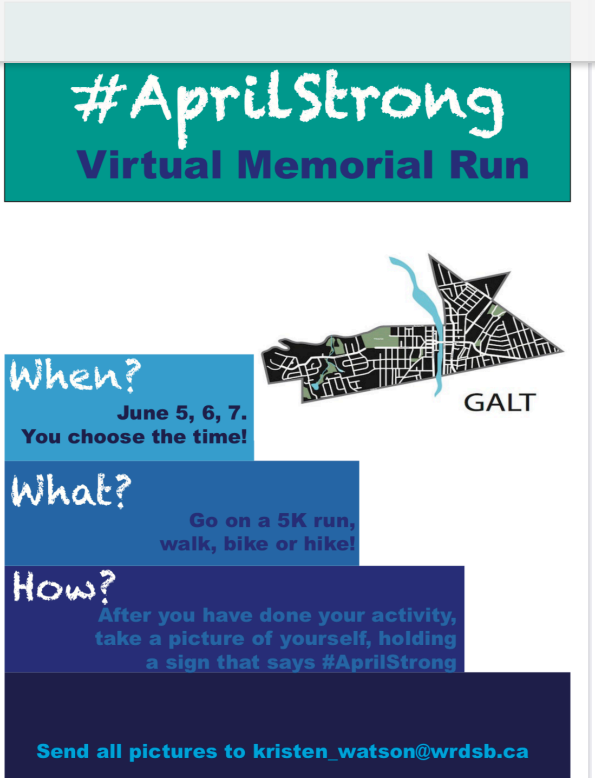
April's love and passion for family, community, education and fitness was inspirational. ***"April was one of the GREATS!!! She was able to run through life working full time, raising four fantastic kids and keeping up fitness with her wonderful husband Andrew while still finding time to coach cross country, make connections at book club, travel with her family and be a great friend and support to her many friends and family members. A pillar of strength, she was able to do all this and do it with pizazz and make it look so easy. She will be so greatly missed"~Tracy***

April fought hard against a brain cancer to which there is no cure. Her family would like to see a cure for glioblastoma as soon as possible, so please give generously to The Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada www.braintumour.ca/**.**

Both the GCI and EAA have organized events to honour April's memory and her contributions to our community. Please see the flyers and information below.

Our deepest sympathies go out to April's husband Andrew and children Brendan, Julia, Cameron and Nolan. May you find peace and comfort in the memories you share and in the presence of each other.

"GCI will not be the same without your jokes, smiles and many kindnesses you showed your students and coworkers. Shalom My friend, Till we meet again."~ Love, Karen



June 5th-7th

Join the GCI community for a Virtual Memorial Run for April

For anyone from the EAA sending pictures in for this memorial please send them to tracy_sullivan@wrdsb.ca

#AprilStrong

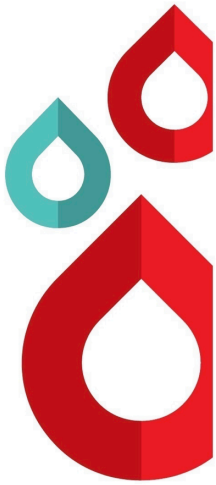
Blood Services

Donate blood on behalf of April Patton

Join the Educational Assistants Association on **June 25** from **3pm-7pm**

KW Blood Donor Clinic
94 Bridgeport Rd E
Waterloo

Visit blood.ca to book your appointment or for more information on how you can help



April was a dedicated blood donor. She gave over 80 times and encouraged others to do the same. Join us June 25th to honour April. Visit blood.ca to make your appointment.

Find all the info you need!

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