

Dear Simsbury School Community,

The Simsbury Public Schools is deeply saddened to announce the passing of Pedro "Peter" Gonzalez, a security guard who worked at Simsbury High School, due to complications from COVID-19. Peter was an employee of U.S. Allied Security, but he had been assigned to SHS on a continuous basis since 2016. He will be fondly remembered as the primary security guard during after-school activities, a time when he developed many warm relationships with both colleagues and students.

Peter showed minor symptoms of COVID-19 in mid-September before testing positive. Over the last few weeks, his fight continued at New Britain Hospital and then Hartford Hospital.

Based on the initial contact tracing at the time of Peter's diagnosis, there was no reason for additional concern about spread of the virus at SHS. No other members of the school community have had positive tests for the virus in the ensuing weeks.

As Superintendent, I was impressed by Peter's constantly positive attitude and the personal greeting he had for everyone who crossed his path. He was a great representative of our school community as someone who worked hard, took his job seriously, and cared about making connections. Peter is survived by his wife, Gladys, two adult children, and a beloved granddaughter. I extend my condolences not only to Peter's family but to all of those in our community who will be impacted by this loss.

We will ensure that our counselors are available to provide staff and student support during this trying time.

Sincerely,

Matt Curtis  
Superintendent