Jordan Weiss, a nine-year old from Newton, Massachusetts, passed away in 2003 from complications related to undiagnosed type 1 diabetes. Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is an autoimmune disease that occurs when a person’s pancreas stops producing insulin, the hormone that controls blood-sugar levels. T1D develops when the insulin-producing pancreatic beta cells are mistakenly destroyed by the body’s immune system (although, studies show that some people still possess functioning beta cells). There presently is no cure for type 1 diabetes and people must take insulin daily in order to survive. The Jordan Bennett Weiss Fund was established by Jordan’s family in order to foster awareness about the warning signs and symptoms of type 1 diabetes. Early detection and knowledge of the warning signs is our greatest weapon against complications associated with the disease. Sometimes the symptoms may be obvious and other times they are not. In Jordan’s case, his symptoms were seemingly subtle and attributed to other issues such as the flu. Symptoms which might appear to be unrelated, when viewed in the context of the list of warning signs, may suggest intervention.

Because we, as a community, are dedicated to the well-being of our students and children, we hope that you will familiarize yourself with the warning signs and symptoms of type 1 diabetes. Please read a comprehensive list of warning signs and symptoms on the other side of this page.

Behaviors(s) a child might suddenly be exhibiting in school that could indicate diabetes:

• Frequent trips to bathroom
• Frequent trips to the water fountain or excessive drinking from a water bottle; complaints about thirst
• Lack of energy; fatigue
• Appearing thinner
• Unusual irritability
• Rubbing eyes; difficulty seeing the board
• Difficulty paying attention
**Know the Warning Signs of Type 1 Diabetes**

**Excessive Thirst**

Symptoms: Unquenchable thirst day & night; waking in the middle of the night to drink water/fluids
(can mistakenly be attributed to exercise/sports activities; hot weather)

**Frequent Urination**

Symptoms: Repeated trips to bathroom; a possible return to bedwetting in youth; constant heavy diapers in babies/toddlers
(can mistakenly be attributed to excessive drinking; urinary tract infection)

**Tired**

Symptoms: Unusual fatigue, low energy, irritability
(can mistakenly be attributed to exercise/sports activities, lack of sleep; viral illness)

**Unexplained Weight Loss**

Symptoms: Unintended weight loss even though eating and feeling hungry
(can mistakenly be attributed to limited appetite; increased activity; growth spurt in youth)

*Contact your health care provider to seek medical attention.*

A delayed diabetes diagnosis can be life-threatening.

Seek emergency medical care if you are experiencing:

**Fruity-Smelling Breath; Stomach Pain; Nausea; Vomiting; Extreme Lethargy; Drowsiness; Confusion; Rapid, Heavy Breathing**

*(Can be mistaken for the flu or stomach virus)*

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*For more information:*