## **Edward Little High School**

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A Finished Heart was performed through a grant in collaboration with ELHS, Hospice and the library as a public performance. At our high school, we met with a group of students prior to the performance to explain and begin the process of understanding the messages portrayed in the performance.

The students brought a sense of vulnerability and sensitivity to the discussion and after the performance they were visibly impacted by the many messages that were conveyed by Eliot and his music. At this age, young people are wrestling with the many meaning of life struggles and who they want to be as human beings. Discussions of death and relationships bring a deeper dimension to these personal journeys as they tug on all of our understandings that life and love have endings. The post discussions were rich in sharing of their own experiences. And they also offered a wonderful insight into the many levels of understanding that they received from the production, including the use of humor, anger, and acceptance in the process of letting go. This is a beautiful performance that enriches the experience of living for all ages.

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