

Principal dies during root canal surgery

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Crisis counselors will be at Brentano Math and Science Academy on the city's North Side today to help student, teachers and staff cope with the death of their principal.

Georgette Watson, 46, died while undergoing root canal surgery at a dental office on North Broadway. Police say she stopped breathing while she was under sedation. Medical personnel at the dental office were unable to revive Watson.

The medical examiner's office plans to conduct an autopsy today to determine an exact cause of death.

Watson was named principal of Brentano Math and Science Academy in 2003. Some of the school's staff say before she was named principal she spent several years as a teacher.

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"She was a great lady. She was friend. She took care of everyone -- the teachers, the maintenance staff. We were a family here. She was the best -- really," said Thomas Fontana, building maintenance.

According to the Illinois Department of Regulations' Web site, the two dentists that operated that office-- Joseph and Laurence Feldman-- were on probation. It's not clear exactly why they were disciplined by the state agency.

Calls to the dental office were not returned.

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