

Good Afternoon Edgewater Community,

In the wake of the tragedy in Uvalde, Texas, we wanted to reach out to our school community members. I know that you join the entire Edgewater Public School District in extending our deepest sympathies to our fellow citizens.

Words fail when expressing the horror of this event and the frustration, sadness, and anger that comes with knowing that we have to again explain to our children that this happens in American schools.

In the absence of those words and recognizing the district's primary responsibility to keep your children physically and emotionally safe, this message reinforces the various layers of protection that the district has in place alongside our community partners.

The district is fortunate to work closely with the Edgewater Police Department through the multiple school visits, walkthroughs, and patrols during the school day. These formal and informal connections help to support our multi-layered safety drills and protocols. In addition, the Edgewater Police Department is involved in our emergency planning and response drills, and we are grateful for their presence in our schools.

Alongside this partnership, our schools have multiple layers of mental health and student wellness resources, which we utilize as needed. Whether through our school counselor, social worker, and members of the Child Study Team, our students and their families are always close to caring and well-trained adults.

There are many resources on this topic; this link, ["How to Talk To Your Kids About School Shootings,"](#) is beneficial as it takes an age-based approach to communicating with your child about school shootings.

Please reinforce to your child that they may reach out to any school community member if they want to speak to an adult regarding the many emotions that follow a school shooting.

As this is a matter of incredible importance and emotion, community members should feel free to reach out to me directly.

We are always here to help our students, staff, and community.

Sincerely,

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