

KEENEYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 20

5540 Arlington Drive East, Hanover Park, IL 60133 | (630) 894-2250 | www.esd20.org

May 25, 2022

Dear Keeneyville District 20 Families

We were deeply saddened to hear the news of the shooting yesterday at a Texas elementary school and the tremendous loss to the Uvalde community. Our hearts break for the unspeakable grief and tragedy they are experiencing. It is very difficult to find the words that appropriately address this tragedy.

I want so assure you that the safety of our students and staff is our top priority. District 20 takes every precaution to ensure the safety of students and staff at each of our buildings. We have an outstanding partnership with the Hanover Park, Roselle, and Bloomingdale Police and Fire Departments who help to maintain the safe and secure learning environments in the District.

As we support one another in the Keeneyville D20 Community, please do not hesitate to dial 9-1-1 for an imminent threat or contact our schools or district office if you have any concerns. Please practice and review the idea with your children that "if you see something, say something." It is important to be vigilant and speak up when something may seem wrong. We encourage you to utilize the confidential SafeSchool Helpline to help prevent violence and wrongdoing across our district.

As much as we try to shield our children from hearing about these tragic events, we know that they do hear of them. It is not unusual for children to experience fear and anxiety, wondering if this can happen in their own school. I wanted to share with you a <u>list of resources</u> that may provide parents and guardians with help in supporting their children. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your school administrators and/or social workers if you feel your child is struggling. Additionally, sometimes children share concerns they have for a friend who may be experiencing signs of depression or concerning behavior. While it can be uncomfortable to address, we encourage you to reach out to someone's parent or the school so that we can help to provide support. As a community, we must work collectively to keep our children safe and support anyone who is struggling. Please note: these resources have been shared widely and the web sites are experiencing heavy traffic which may cause loading to be slow, so please be patient.

District 20 continues to review emergency procedures and work collaboratively with our local law enforcement, DuPage Regional Office of Education, and other school district leaders to stay current with best practices to keep our students and staff safe. We thank you for your support and partnership with the District and please keep the families and community of Uvalde in your thoughts.

Please stay safe and well.

Sincerely,

Dr. Omar Castillo Superintendent of Schools Keeneyville ESD 20