

May 24, 2022

Dear Manhasset School Community,

I write to you with a heavy heart in the wake of the mass shooting that took place in Texas earlier today, claiming the lives of 18 elementary school children and one teacher. As a parent, it is incomprehensible that a tragedy of this magnitude has happened once again. We offer our condolences to the families of Robb Elementary School. Their lives will never be the same.

We understand that many in our school community may have a difficult time processing what has happened. As always, our entire staff and especially our wellness teams will be available to speak with any student who may be in need. If you or your child are struggling with this news, I urge you to reach out to one of our wellness team members for guidance and support.

I have no doubt that this violent act has given you pause to reflect on the safety of your own children. We are very grateful to have a close partnership with the Nassau County Police Department. While there is no known threat or connection to our region, you can expect to see an enhanced presence at schools across the county tomorrow.

Among the many things we do to maintain a safe environment for our students and staff, conducting safety drills increases our preparedness in the event of an emergency. As you know we conducted a lockdown drill on Monday in each of our buildings and as I informed you last Friday, we will conduct a lock-out drill tomorrow as planned. A lockout drill is used to secure the perimeter of the school building when a danger occurs outside of the building. Both drills are conducted in concert with the Nassau County Police Department.

Tonight, our hearts are with the families of all those affected by this senseless act. As we hug our own children just a little bit tighter tonight, please keep the Uvalde community in your thoughts.

Warmly,

Dr. Gaurav Passi
Acting Superintendent of Schools