

May 25, 2022



A Message from the Superintendent: Tragedy at Texas Elementary School

Dear Chehalis Families,

Yesterday I was shocked by the news of the shooting in Texas. The loss of life is unfathomable. As an educator, I can't imagine the pain of losing so many students and colleagues to such a heinous act. As a parent, I am deeply saddened by what families in Uvalde feel today and can't begin to understand their grief. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and staff of Robb Elementary School today.

We continue to create a safe and welcoming environment here in Chehalis. Our building administrators and district security quickly assess possible threats as they arise and work in partnership with the Chehalis Police Department when necessary to ensure any and all potential threats are assessed and managed appropriately and as quickly as possible.

For families seeking help for how they might support their child at home during this difficult time, here are some ideas for families to consider:

- Parents and adults need first to acknowledge and assess their own response to crisis and stress.
- Try to keep routines as normal as possible. Children gain security from the predictability of routine, including sending them to school.
- Limit exposure to television and the news.
- Be honest with kids and share with them as much information as they are developmentally able to handle.
- Listen to kids' fears and concerns.

Here are some additional resources that may be helpful:

- We have an [Anonymous Security/Safety Reporting Form](#) that I encourage you to share with your students and families regularly so they know it is a resource for them. This information is found on our website under Students and Families.
- Students who may be experiencing anxiety or need help processing this tragedy can speak to our [Mental Health Counselors and School Counselors](#). This is another resource that you can always share with families and students.
- [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#)
- [Coping in the Aftermath of a Shooting](#)

Hug your kids tighter tonight and make sure you take time as a parent to care for yourself. Talk to a friend, spouse, or family member. Processing this news is challenging, and we need each other.

Sincerely,



Dr. Christine Moloney
Superintendent

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