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## Uvalde, Texas in Our Hearts

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May 24, 2022

Dear School Community Members,

I write today with exasperation and sadness, as we process yet another act of violence. For the second time in as many weeks, we are shaken by senseless violence that has taken the lives of innocent people. Today, we hold in our hearts those personally affected in Uvalde, Texas.

The Irvington UFSD places the safety of its students and staff as its top priority. To this end, there is consistent focus on school security and emergency preparedness. District and school leaders work closely with the Irvington Police Department and the District's security consultant, Altaris, to evaluate security measures and to consistently practice emergency protocols. This partnership will continue to inform our planning and reinforce measures to provide the safest school environments possible.

In the days ahead, school staff members will be attentive to all student needs and our school psychologists, social workers, and school counselors will be available to assist anyone in need of extra support. Please note that each school will handle the subject matter in a developmentally appropriate manner. Additionally, the Irvington Police Department will have an increased presence on all school campuses.

Should you have any concerns for your child, please feel free to contact their school principal or school counselor. Below, please find resources to help us during times of violence.

As always, we will be strong together and continue to take all the steps necessary to provide for the well-being of our students and staff.

Sincerely yours,

Kris

Dr. Kristopher Harrison  
Superintendent of Schools

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For ourselves:

<https://www.apa.org/topics/gun-violence-crime/mass-shooting>

For our children:

<https://www.apa.org/topics/gun-violence-crime/shooting-aftermath>

<https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-safety-and-crisis/school-violence-resources/talking-to-children-about-violence-tips-for-parents-and-teachers>

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