

Shaler Area School District

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Dear Shaler Area families,

The tragedy of this week's shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, has been felt across the country. We are heartbroken for the loss of innocent lives and for every person whose life has been changed forever by this horrific event.

As educators, we strive to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all of our students. If your student is struggling with these recent events, please know that our school counselors are available in each of our buildings. If you have specific concerns, please contact your student's school counselor directly: <https://www.sasd.k12.pa.us/SchoolCounseling.aspx>

At times like these, children will look to the adults in their lives for information and guidance. We can help students feel safe by talking to them about their fears. Please use these tips from the National Association of School Psychologists when talking with your students:

1. Reassure children that they are safe
2. Make time to talk
3. Keep your explanations developmentally appropriate
4. Review safety procedures
5. Observe children's emotional state
6. Limit television viewing of these events
7. Maintain a normal routine

Source: [Talking to Children About Violence](#), National Association of School Psychologists

Finally, if you have a school safety or security concern, please contact your student's building principal or use the anonymous Safe2Say Something reporting system. The Safe2Say tip line is accessible 24/7 and tips will be immediately directed to the appropriate local authorities. Tips can be submitted via 1-844-SAF2SAY (1-844-723-2729) or online at www.safe2saypa.org/tip.

We value your partnership in making our schools a safe place to learn and grow.

Sincerely,

Sean C. Aiken, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Bryan O'Black, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent