Message through Mass Notification System (Wednesday, May 25, 2022)

Our Mechanicsburg School Community,

We are witness to yet another mass school shooting that occurred yesterday at an elementary school in Texas. The emotions induced by these senseless acts range from anger and frustration to numbness and sadness.  Like a recurring nightmare, these horrific situations occur all too often in communities big and small.  The unbelievable frequency of these acts in schools, and in communities at large, leaves me wondering when to share a note with you acknowledging the tragedy and when to forge ahead with an unspoken, collective heavy heart.  The fact is, there is no perfect answer; but, sometimes the incomprehensible nature of a situation just touches the soul differently.  We grieve together in that space today.

So often, we want to know what we can do collectively and as individuals. Each of you have already given so much to our children. A situation like this could bring to the surface challenges for students and families alike.  You are not alone.  If you know of someone who needs additional assistance, please reach out to your school counselor, social worker or administrators.

Finally, please know that we remain resolutely committed to providing schools where students can feel, and be, safe.  We value our partnership with you and local law enforcement to support our students and staff.  We will continue to strive to ensure that every child has the opportunity to walk through our doors feeling like they belong to a learning community where they can pursue their dreams.

Yours in education,

Mark K. Leidy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Mechanicsburg Area School District