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*Delivering Extraordinary Value to Families*  
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Dear Steel Valley Families and Staff,

We are heartbroken to learn of the horrific violence that has ravaged the community of Uvalde, Texas. We are devastated for the families and educators who must bury a child, a sibling, a parent, or a colleague. The hearts of all of us in the Steel Valley School District are with the community of Uvalde.

Sadly, the shock of this senseless tragedy is not a new feeling. I feel moral outrage that schools have become targets, that school buildings- the one place that should be a safe haven for all children- remain under attack. Our elected leaders must take action to find ways to ensure that our children, the most precious and innocent of us, have secure, safe learning environments to grow and become the outstanding people we know they are destined to be.

We recognize that the disturbing news from Tuesday's tragedy will leave a lasting impact on many of us. The Steel Valley School District is offering support across multiple providers for those students, staff members and families in need. Counselors are available in our schools for staff and students, whether they just want to talk, need a moment to decompress, or are in need of more specific help.

The Steel Valley Wellness Group provides counseling by licensed professionals for all ages. Please call 412-368-3535 or email [info@steelvalleywellnessgroup.com](mailto:info@steelvalleywellnessgroup.com) to connect with a counselor. Another local provider is the RESOLVE Crisis Center, a free service provided by Allegheny County and UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital. A walk-in center is available at 333 North Braddock Avenue in Pittsburgh or you can call their hotline at 1-888-796-8226.

Additionally, our colleagues at UPMC Children's Hospital are available to help. They have a violence intervention program that offers support for youth exposed to violence, and Sarah London, a social worker in the program, can be reached at 412-692-6269. This is the website for the program: <https://www.chp.edu/health-care-professionals/podcast/hospital-based-violence-intervention-for-teens>

We are nearing the end of the school year, but our commitment to the health and safety of our community will continue through the summer. As we process this tragedy in Texas, please know that Steel Valley is here for you. It is OK to not be OK. We will do all that we can to provide support to our students, staff and families.

Sincerely,

Edward Wehrer  
#SteelValleyStronger