



EASTPOINTE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

CHRISTINA A. GIBSON
Superintendent of Schools

WENDY KOHLMANN
Executive Assistant

February 14, 2023

Dear Eastpointe Community Schools family,

The Eastpointe Community Schools family is heartbroken by the tragedy at Michigan State University. We know that so many of our staff, students, and families have close ties to MSU, and we are keeping them and their loved ones close in our thoughts today. We want to share our deepest sympathies with the entire Spartan community at this unbelievably difficult time.

Making sense of a tragedy like this can be very difficult for adults and children alike, especially when it strikes so close to home. Eastpointe Community Schools has an excellent team of counselors, social workers, psychologists, and other support personnel in the district to assist students and families. Our staff is available to support students and monitors for those that might need additional emotional support.

Families may be struggling with how to help their student cope with the trauma and grief an incident like this can cause. Resources are available to parents [on our district website](#) to help families talk to their children and support them during times of crisis. Families are encouraged to try to keep routines as normal as possible, listen to children's fears and concerns, and try to limit exposure to television and the news. Reassure children that, while scary things may happen in the world, their school is still a safe place.

School safety and supporting our children is everyone's responsibility. Unlike an open college campus, our schools are able to secure our entrances and keep exterior doors locked. We can all work together to help keep our schools and community safe:

- Exterior doors to our buildings are locked throughout the school day, and our buildings are monitored by security cameras. You can help maintain security by only using main entrances to our schools.
- We have secure front entrances and sign in/sign out procedures for students and visitors. We appreciate your support in following these procedures, and ask that families help us maintain these security measures by minimizing late arrivals and early pick-ups.
- Parents and students can use [OK2Say](#) to anonymously report tips or threats to our schools, or contact the police if you see suspicious behavior near our schools.

In times of grief, it is important that we all continue to take care of our families and each other as a community. We care deeply for our students and families, and we will continue to make their safety and wellbeing our top priority. As we keep the MSU community in our thoughts, please know our ECS family is always here to support you and your child.

Sincerely,

Christina A. Gibson
Superintendent

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