

DR. RYAN MCLEOD Superintendent of Schools

> WENDY KOHLMANN Executive Assistant

December 1, 2021

Dear Eastpointe Community Schools family,

The Eastpointe Community Schools family is heartbroken by the tragedy at Oxford High School. We mourn with the friends and families who lost loved ones and pray for a speedy recovery for the injured. We want to express our deepest sympathies to the entire community of Oxford and our Oakland County neighbors at this unbelievably difficult time.

We know that a tragedy like this may raise questions about our children's safety at school. The safety and security of our students and staff is always our top priority. Although we hope to never need them, we continually evaluate and update our district safety procedures for potential emergency situations. Schools remain one of the safest places for our children.

Making sense of a tragedy like this can be very difficult for adults and children alike, especially when it strikes so close to home. During the school day today, our staff supported students and monitored for those that might be in need of additional emotional support. ECS has an excellent team of counselors, social workers, psychologists, and other support personnel in the district to assist students and families.

Families may be struggling with how to help their student cope with the trauma an incident like this can cause. Families are encouraged to try to keep routines as normal as possible and listen to children's fears and concerns. Though media coverage of this tragedy is understandably widespread, 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. Finally, resources are available to parents on our district website to help families talk to their children and support them during times of crisis.

School safety and supporting our children is everyone's responsibility! We encourage you to reach out to your child's school principal if you have concerns, whether it is to report troubling behavior you've seen on social media or to find additional help and support for your child.

In difficult times, it is important that we continue to take care of our families and each other. As we keep the Oxford community in our thoughts, our ECS family is always here to support you and your family.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Ryan McLeod Superintendent

Administration Building // 24685 Kelly Road // P: 586.533.3023 // F: 586.533.3025 It is the policy of Eastpointe Community Schools not to discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, religion, height, weight or marital status in its programs, services, employment or any other activities. For more information, please contact the Superintendent of Eastpointe Community Schools.