

Klickitat School District #402

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Website: <http://www.klickitatsd.org>

Subject: Bend Oregon School Tragedy & Grief Resources

Dear Staff and Families,

It is with a heavy heart that I write to share news of a tragic school shooting that occurred in Bend Oregon yesterday. Events like this are profoundly difficult to process because schools are meant to be places of growth, learning and community.

When incidents like this happen, it's natural for all of us to reflect on our own sense of safety at school and work. Please know that our district is committed to providing a safe, secure environment for every student and staff member. Our school district has safety and security plans, regularly conducts drills, and maintains a close connection to law enforcement and regional resources. These measures are part of our ongoing commitment to protect our students and staff, and we continually review and strengthen our protocols as new information and best practices emerge.

We also recognize that news of this nature can bring feelings of fear, anxiety, or sadness for both students and adults. It's important to acknowledge these feelings and seek support when needed. If a student needs support, please reach out to Dr. Dillon or Mrs. McCabe. Staff members in need of support are encouraged to talk to one another or utilize our employee assistance program.

We've also included a few trusted resources to help guide conversations with children about violence and tragic events:

- [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#): National Association of School Psychologists
- [How to Talk to Kids About Tragedies in the Media](#): Child Development Institute
- [Helping Students After a School Shooting](#): American School Counselor Association
- [Talking to Kids About Fear and Violence](#): Mental Health America

In moments like these, it is more important than ever to lean on one another with compassion, patience, and understanding. Please reach out if you need anything.

With care and compassion,



Dr. Jeff Dillon
Superintendent/Principal
Klickitat School District