



Ida Public Schools Superintendent Safety Brief

Where Learning Strikes

Dear Ida Public Schools Community:

It is with a heavy heart I try to even begin to process the tragedy at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. Please keep the families and Uvalde community in your prayers.

To help with today's anxiety and extra safety, please see the press release from the Monroe County Sheriff Department posted on our webpage under "In the News." They will have added presence at all county schools from now until the end of summer. Ida Public Schools will have their own Monroe County Sheriff Department school resource officer (liaison) starting in the 2022- 2023 school year. In the meantime, the sheriff department is quick to aid in any given situation. Our partnership with them is invaluable as is our partnership with you. Please do not hesitate to report at OKAY@SAY@mich.gov or 8-555-OK2SAY.

In today's accounts of school and community violence, social media and the news are not always our friend. The constant barrage of news in a highly anxious world can add to our children's anxiety as well as our own. Please be mindful of this for yourself and for your children. Limiting your news and social media intake each day could help with anxiety.

To be as prepared as we can, I would like to inform you the ALICE evacuation drill for our students, we notified you would be coming this week, was completed

on Monday morning. The students were impressive as they listened and understood the importance of the drill and evacuated. Please discuss with them what they learned and share with your building principal any concerns or further questions. We continually seek ways to improve. In that quest, you will see a few more changes this fall. It is a balancing act, not wanting to live in fear and creating unnecessary anxiety while being diligent. I imagine you have the same balancing act at home when trying to explain to your children what is going on in the world.

A valuable resource I have counted on for many years, as school counselor and an administrator, is the National Association of School Psychologists. Please refer to their website. I also posted a NASP resource page on our website under From the Superintendent and In the News.

[Talking-to-children-about-violence-tips-for-parents-and-teachers](#)

As always, we are in this together. It takes all of us to help keep our schools safe and our children thriving.

Sincerely,

Sandy