



# Lowell Joint SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"Home of Scholars and Champions"*



*Healthy Families and Staff Newsletter*

**Lowell Joint STRONG**

5/27/2022

Dear Lowell Joint Family,

We continue to have heavy hearts as we keep the Robb Elementary community of Uvalde, Texas in our thoughts and prayers. We all understand our children/students (no matter how old they are) need the guidance and safety of adults in their homes and in their schools to be able to navigate their own emotions and potential trauma in a healthy, safe, and productive way. In partnership with Orange County Department of Education, we are able to share some additional resource links below. I realize this list is long, but we don't want to leave out a potentially beneficial resource:



"Character is like a tree and reputation like a shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing."  
Abraham Lincoln

## **For All Ages of Youth:**

- [How to Talk to Kids About Violence, Crime, and War](#): Common Sense Media gathers tips and conversation starters to help you talk to kids of different ages about the most challenging topics.  
For Elementary/Middle School Age Youth:
- [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Educators](#): Resource from the National Association of School Psychologists to support developmentally appropriate steps for adults to support youth in processing instances of violence.
- Care Solace: A wrap around service to help connect families with health services.  
<https://caresolace.com/site/lowell>
- [How to Talk to Kids about School Shootings](#)
- [Caring for Kids after a School Shooting](#)
- [Helping Children Cope With Frightening News](#)
- [Multilingual Trauma Resources](#)
- [Coping Skills Resources](#)
- **National Association of School Psychologists**: Talking to Children about Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers
- **Facing History and Ourselves**: [Teaching in the Wake of Violence](#)
- **School Crisis Center**: [Talking to children about terrorist attacks and school and community shootings in the news](#)
- **American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry**: [Talking to children about violence](#)
- **The National Child Traumatic Stress Network**  
[Childhood Traumatic Grief Information – Parents & Caregivers](#)  
[Parents Guidelines for Helping Youth after the Recent Shooting](#)  
[Parents Guidelines for Helping Youth after the Recent Shooting \(Spanish\)](#)
- **Health Children**: [Talking to Children About Tragedies & Other News Events](#)
- **CalHOPE Student Support** – [www.calhope.org](http://www.calhope.org)  
CalHOPE Student Support SEL Portal – [www.calhopesel.org](http://www.calhopesel.org)  
A Trusted Space - <https://www.atrustedspaceca.org/>  
Together for Wellness- <https://calhope.semel.ucla.edu/>

We cannot thank our families and all of our teachers, staff, school counselors, psychologists, and student support staff for the outstanding care and heart they continue to share with our students and school community. It really is the positive-caring adults that help our students walk through these trying challenges.

I do want to remind our entire LJSD family that we continue to take significant proactive measures to maintain and improve our safe school environment. This includes our District and school safety planning that is continuously reviewed and improved in close partnership with ASCIP and local law enforcement (proud and honored to maintain close partnerships with the La Habra and Whittier Police Departments and LA County Sheriff Department). These annual protocol and facilities reviews have resulted in some of the following upgrades over the past 5 years:

- On even years - ASCIP sends off-duty officers to test our safety & security protocols by posing as guests/parents onto campus. They also walk the entire campus to review for any areas or systems that need improvement.
- On odd years - We have our local law enforcement partners (La Habra PD, Whittier PD, and Sheriff) walk each campus to review our facilities.
- Based on these reviews we launched the “Raptor” system almost 4 years ago. This is a system where we scan all guest/visitor/parent driver licenses prior to coming onto campuses.
- We have also added security cameras to all campuses as part of the Measure LL projects. Thank you to our citizens for their support of Measure LL four years ago.
- We also launched our “Catapult Emergency Alert” system four years ago, which coordinates each school with the entire district and local law enforcement.
- We also launched “Bark” which is computer software that monitors all student and staff electronic communication and work for “high alert” words. It alerts us for safety concerns where students/staff could be a harm to themselves or others. These are then immediately alerted to administration.
- We have also enhanced our gates, locks, and discovered when some staff have not made sure to secure gates as they come through them.
- We continue to review and enhance what we do to make our schools safe and secure, while we keep the hometown feel and care.

We also want to continue to remind our LJSD family that one key component is - **see something, hear something, say something** - it is the best deterrent to potentially harmful situations.

The entire Lowell Joint School District Family will continue to keep the community at Robb Elementary in our thoughts and prayers as they begin to heal from this tragic shooting.

We continue to stand in faith as we are LOWELL JOINT **STRONG** and we will stand strong against the storms that come our way; you are the beacon/lighthouse of educational excellence; **THANK YOU!**

**LOWELL JOINT STRONG TOGETHER!!**