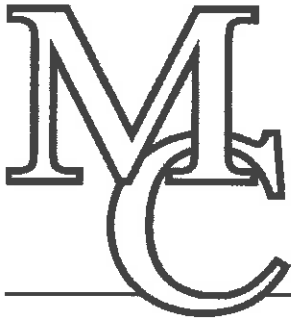


MIDDLE COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
AT CENTEREACH

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Roberta A. Gerold, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Francine McMahon, Deputy Superintendent for Instruction
Beth A. Rella, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent for Business
James G. Donovan, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

May 25, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Today, I write to you in sadness as we are all trying to understand the horrific school shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. It is difficult to comprehend how such events continue to happen in our country and in our schools, which are meant to be safe havens for our children.

In each of our schools, our social workers, guidance counselors and psychologists are ready to support our students and staff as they struggle to process the news. In our secondary schools, we held a moment of silence to collectively send thoughts to all those at Robb Elementary School and to everyone directly affected by yesterday's devastating tragedy.

Please be assured that the Middle Country has as its top priority, safe and supportive learning environments for our students and staff. We continue to enhance and improve infrastructural and procedural protocols that we have in place to help mitigate any outside concerns. As a district, we not only benefit from the work of our highly trained security team but also from a strong partnership with law enforcement officers and first responders.

Yesterday evening, we were informed that the Suffolk County Police Department will be providing increased patrols across all school districts until further notice in response to yesterday's tragedy. There has been no credible threat to our local schools, and I must emphasize that this is being done out of an abundance of caution. We continue to be thankful to the care that our police take to help keep our students and staff safe.

Please reach out to your child's principal or to our student support staff if you need assistance with how to approach this tragic situation with your child, or with any matter. We are here to help. Additionally, if you, at any time, hear or learn of something concerning, please do not hesitate to contact us. We take all reported matters very seriously and promise to investigate all to the fullest extent possible.

Please join me in keeping the community of Uvalde, Texas, in our thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roberta A. Gerold". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Roberta A. Gerold, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools