

COLUMBINE TRAGEDY

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Like you, I am shocked and saddened by the Columbine High School tragedy. I certainly extend my sympathy to the many families touched by the actions of students in Littleton, Colorado.

According to a 1998 Federal study, "The Annual Report on School Safety," 90% of schools are free of violence and serious crime. Schools are among the safest places for students to be on a day-to-day basis. However, any crime or violence in our schools is unacceptable.

There is one message that this terrible tragedy sends, get involved. It can be in very simple ways like knowing what school policies are and what's going on with your kids. I'd like to help you get involved by sharing some of the violence-prevention and school-safety programs in place in the (name) School District. I would also like to offer some suggested early warning signs that parents and staff can watch for in their children or students. I have also invited a few (name of school district) students to join our conversation.

Please join me for a Key Communicators/Community Leaders' brown-bag lunch on (date), from (time) at the (location and room). If you have not been to our administrative offices, the address is (address). We will have handouts and other materials for you to take and share with others.

The format for our brown-bag lunch is the same, just bring a lunch (we will have coffee and juice available) and we will have some informal conversation together. In order to make sure we have enough space, please RSVP to the community relations office at (phone number) by (date). I look forward to working with you on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

(Superintendent's name)
Superintendent