

**JENNIFER PHOSTOLE**  
*Principal*

**EAST RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL**



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Thomas P. Grace

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May 25, 2022

Dear ERMS and SRMS Families,

It is with great sadness that we write to you in response to the senseless tragedy that took place yesterday. As a community we will continue to pray for the families of Uvalde in the aftermath of this unthinkable tragedy.

Please know that today your child's teachers will continue to be a calming presence that will exude a sense of safety and support. Counselors, administrators, and our mental health professionals will be available and circulating the building throughout the day to respond to anyone who may be in need of support. The Ridgefield Police Department will also be providing additional staff throughout the district.

As you begin the conversation or continue the conversation with your children, we want to provide resources that may be helpful in facilitating these discussions.

**Resources:**

[Talking to Your Children about Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#) - NASP

[Coping in the Aftermath of a Shooting](#) - American Counseling Association

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. As always, we are here to help.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Phostole & Tim Salem  
ERMS Principal      SRMS Principal