



California Council on Teacher Education

Statement by the Board of Directors of the California Council on Teacher Education on Recent Mass Shootings

Issued May 25, 2022

Today, we grieve.

We are educators. Many of us have dedicated our lives to support educators and students. Many of us are parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, godparents, mentors, and closely connected to young people on a daily basis.

We are devastated by the mass shooting that took place at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, that currently has taken the lives of 19 children and 2 adult educators, injured many more, and forever changed the lives of the families and communities involved. It is not lost on us that this is a border community that is 79% Latinx. We hold the victims, their families, and the community in our hearts.

The shooting in Uvalde comes just days after a white supremacist shooter targeted the Topps Market in the Eastside of Buffalo, New York, killing 10 Black community members and after a politically motivated shooting killed 1 and injured 5 at the Irvine Taiwanese Presbyterian Church, in Laguna Woods, California.

The ripple of mass shootings, and school shootings in particular, directly impacts many educators and students who are expected to continue on, in the days after, despite the trauma they may be experiencing. The shootings in Uvalde, Buffalo, and Laguna Woods, targeting specific communities of color are likely to have particularly damaging effects on children and educators of color.

As teacher educators, some of us may have just finished our semesters, however, we offer two resources to support teacher educators and educators. The first, put together by students and faculty at the University of Minnesota in response to the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in 2018 is a syllabus on responding to school violence: <https://bit.ly/enoughisenoughsyllabus>. The second, compiled by Dr. Kaitlin Popielarz is a compiled list of resources on Teaching and Learning on Days After: Tragedy and Trauma Resources: <https://bit.ly/onthedayafter>. While we know that resources do not make the devastation of these events any less real, we hope they make your lift a little lighter as we share the responsibility to stand for humanization of educators and children during these devastating times.

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