

Dear EHS Community,

I think that I speak with a unanimous voice when I say how saddened I am by this national tragedy. Our hearts and prayers go out to all of the victims and their families.

I am writing to let you know that things on campus are going well and the kids are doing fine despite the enormity of today's tragedy. I also thought you might like to know how we handled things on campus. As events unfolded, our first order of business this morning was to contact all of our families in the New York City and Washington D.C. areas, as well as those who were on flights to the west coast following our opening of school. Thankfully, we were able to confirm that none of our parents were directly involved. As we heard from each of our families who were geographically vulnerable, we met with each of their children individually to let them know that all was well at home. Following these individual meetings, I addressed the entire student body at noon and filled them in on the events as we had come to understand them to that point. At this same all-school meeting, the students had the opportunity to ask as many questions as they wished. I will tell you that the questions were insightful and fitting given the severity of this tragedy. From there our students went back to class and were afforded the opportunity to process the issue further with their teachers if they wished. I'm sure we will process through this even further over the coming days—I just wish this “teachable moment” was not accompanied by such loss.

All told, I think things have gone as well as we could have expected and generally things have been running smoothly all day. All of your children are doing fine.

God Bless America.

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