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Dear Cherry Hill Public Schools Community,

The Cherry Hill Board of Education and the Cherry Hill Public School District are saddened and outraged by the news of another mass shooting hate crime in Buffalo, NY, on Saturday May 14, 2022. This, coupled with the news of a mass shooting at a California church on Sunday, May 15, 2022, calls for us to support one another and decry all acts of hate and racism.

It has been a difficult two years for everyone, with all too many tragedies such as these most recent ones. Please know that the District offers mental health supports for students and their families, as well as staff.

Our guidance counselors and student assistance counselors are available in person during school hours and at their office phone numbers and email addresses listed on our school websites. They will respond quickly to students and families who reach out to them. Additional resources, including how to help children cope with traumatic events, are listed on the [Student Assistance page of our District website](#).

[CareSolace](#), a 24/7/365 mental health concierge service, can support you in any language. Search on your own or click "Book Appointment" for assistance by video chat, email or phone at [www.caresolace.com/chpsd](http://www.caresolace.com/chpsd).

I also want to reiterate that our school district works every day to provide a safe and welcoming environment in which our students learn and grow, whether students are attending virtually or in person. We have policies and practices in place to make sure everyone in the Cherry Hill Public Schools community has the opportunity to learn and work in an environment where they are treated with dignity and respect, free from bullying or harassment. We do not discriminate on the basis of color, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, veteran status or disability, and we continue our dedicated work in Cultural Proficiency, Equity and Character Education to ensure constant improvement in these vital aspects of education.

As a community, our diversity and mutual support are what keep us strong.

I encourage you to reach out to me at [jmeloche@chclc.org](mailto:jmeloche@chclc.org) to share your thoughts or request a phone conversation. As always, please stay safe and well.

Regards,

Joseph N. Meloche, Ed.D.  
Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools