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Dr. Nicholas J. Spera, Executive Director Denise M. Dunning, Principal & Director of Special Education Tanya N. Collins, Associate Principal & Director of Human Resources William Linski, Director of Instruction, Programming & Athletics

May 24, 2022

## Dear ISAAC Family,

For the past several hours, I am saddened and heartbroken by the events that unfolded today at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. As parents and educators, we join their community with shared grief and sorrow as these families deal with this unspeakable tragedy. I know all of you will hold these families and their community in your thoughts and prayers as they deal with the evilness that has taken the lives of their most precious loved ones. These acts of violence on schools force us to think about our own children at their schools including our own special place that we all work, learn, and grow at each school day.

In the next 24 hours, the media and social media coverage and attention to this event will lead to a mix of questions and concerns as it relates to school safety and preparation for schools across the nation. This evening, I felt it was important to notify the entire ISAAC community that we as a school will continue to plan, practice, and secure our building in an effort to prevent violence from the unthinkable. Beyond the physical safety, I have notified our mental health team about the possible reactions that may come forward from our students following this event.

As a community of parents and educators, I ask that we work together to ensure that our students are physically and emotionally safe. If any student is struggling with this topic, I ask that you contact our school tomorrow so that our team of school social workers may support them. In addition, I want to stress the importance of remaining vigilant with any social media threats about our school. As we have in past notifications, we ask that you speak to your child about the importance of being a "hero" by reporting any threats mentioned on social media. Together, our Dragon Nation can work together to ensure the safety of all students and staff at ISAAC.

In summary, I want to stress the attentiveness and intensity that exists in the area of safety of our school among our administrative and school safety team. In addition, we are incredibly thankful for our close working relationship with Chief Wright and the New London Police Department. Together, we are constantly working together in an effort to enhance our school safety and security by any means possible so that ISAAC remains the safest school possible.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact any member of our administrative team. For me personally, I am hugging my own two boys, Rocco and Nico, a little harder tonight. I am sure all of you receiving this will do the same to your children.

We thank you for your continued cooperation and support as we conclude the final days remaining in the school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nicholas J. Spera Executive Director