



Dear Families,

Over the weekend, thousands of people from the Filipino community - from across Metro Vancouver - gathered in Vancouver to celebrate the Lapu-Lapu Day Festival. Late Saturday night, Vancouver Police confirmed the tragic and heartbreaking news that eleven people were killed and dozens more injured at the event.

Surrey Schools is proud to be the home to many Filipino-Canadian staff, students and families. Many people in our school community may have attended the event or had family and friends at the event. We are still in the process of understanding the full impact of Saturday's tragic incident on our school community.

Today, you can expect our staff will be working hard to support students and provide opportunities for them to express their feelings and ask their questions. The district has arranged additional support through district resource counselors and Safe Schools staff for our school community. Please feel free to read this fact sheet for families on [supporting children through loss](#).

Our children process grief in different ways and over the next many days, weeks and months, we will see them express a range of emotions. Some may appear angry, sad, withdrawn, or confused, and others may express their feelings through questions or conversation. These responses are natural and may take time to work through. During this difficult time, your child will need patience, care, and reassurance at school and at home.

We value the compassion, care and respect for our school community shows for each other in difficult times. We are navigating a devastating loss and your understanding and patience is much appreciated at this time.

Please check in on your friends, colleagues and members of your community. Do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need to talk or have any questions.

Should your child need further support, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Nikolas Kirincic, Principal

Ministry of Education and Child Care and Safer Schools Together Guidance

Limit exposure to news stories on traditional and social media channels

Consider how you access news and how that may impact children nearby. Young children may not know how to make sense of the news they are seeing and can quickly become overwhelmed. Encourage your older child to rely on reputable news sources, and where possible limit their consumption and exposure to upsetting coverage.

It is important to have conversations, and model with your own behaviours, the additional traumatic impact for victims and families when upsetting images are re-circulated. We are respectfully suggesting that individuals do not watch, repost or share videos of the tragedy.

Acknowledge feelings

Our children and youth will look to us for cues on how to process this upsetting information. Acknowledging our own feelings gives children a model for how to express and process their strong emotions. It is normal to experience a range of emotions in response to such unsettling news.

It is important to note that the intensity of these feelings are going to be impacted by a family's personal connections to the event, their history of loss and trauma, and degree of exposure to the traumatic stimuli on social media.

Listen more than you speak

Listen to your child's concerns before offering any explanations. Give them an opportunity to voice their fears and ask age-appropriate open-ended questions. Ask what they may have heard and what that information means to them. You may uncover misconceptions and unfounded fears that need correcting. These questions will also help you understand if your child is coming from a place of curiosity, concern or fear, and will help you gain a sense of what your child may need from adults to feel safe and supported.

Some of the questions you can ask include the following:

- Tell me what you have heard about this?
- Where did you first hear about this?
- How are you feeling?
- What questions do you have?

Provide Facts

Tell the truth but do it gently. Give your child facts as long as it is consistent with their stage of development - keep conversations age appropriate. Children need to know their concerns and questions are being taken seriously by the adults around them and that they can trust their adults to be truthful with them. If you don't know the answer to a question, don't be afraid to say so.

Importance of Routine

Maintaining daily routines can provide a sense of stability and security for children and adults. It can also be important to give children permission to continue to find and celebrate hope in their daily world.

Encourage empathy and compassion

Remind your child there may be others in their daily lives who may be impacted by this tragedy. Talk with your child about how we need to treat others with extra compassion and empathy during times like these. Tragedies and times of sadness and grief can serve as meaningful moments to teach compassion, which can help children feel empowered as they find additional ways to be kind and caring.

Tel: 604-560-2285 Toll Free: 1.855.677.3720 info@saferschoolstogether.com

Resources

- BC Hospice Resources
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- ERASE
- Healthlinkbc: Helping Children with Grief
- Kelty Mental Health
- Learning through Loss • Foundry Virtual BC - Foundry BC App

Mga Mahal na Pamilya,

Nitong nakaraang weekend/ katapusan ng linggo, libu-libong tao mula sa Filipino community - mula sa buong Metro Vancouver - ang nagtipon sa Vancouver upang ipagdiwang ang Lapu-Lapu Day Festival. Noong bandang Sabado ng gabi, kinumpirma ng Vancouver Police ang trahedya at nakakadurog-pusong balita na labing-isang tao ang namatay at dose-dosena pa ang nasugatan sa kaganapan.

Ipinagmamalaki ng Surrey Schools na tahanan ito ng maraming Filipino-Canadian na kawani, mag-aaral at pamilya. Maraming tao sa komunidad ng aming paaralan ang maaaring dumalo sa kaganapan o may kapamilya at mga kaibigan sa kaganapan. Nasa proseso pa rin kami ng pag-unawa sa buong epekto ng malagim na insidente noong Sabado sa komunidad ng aming paaralan.

Sa Lunes, maaasahan ninyo na ang aming mga kawani ay magsisikap na suportahan ang mga mag-aaral at magbigay ng mga pagkakataon para sa kanila na ipahayag ang kanilang mga damdamin at ihayag ang kanilang mga katanungan. Ang distrito ay nag-ayos ng karagdagang suporta sa pamamagitan ng mga mapagkukunan ng payo sa distrito at kawani ng Safe Schools para sa komunidad ng aming paaralan. Mangyaring huwag mag-atubiling basahin ang fact sheet na ito para sa mga pamilya sa pagsuporta sa mga bata sa ganitong uri ng kapahamakan o pagkawala. Ang gabay mula sa Ministri ng Edukasyon at Pangangalaga sa Bata ay kasama sa ibaba ng liham na ito.

Pinoproseso ng ating mga anak ang kalungkutan sa iba't ibang paraan at sa susunod na mga araw, linggo at buwan, makikita natin silang magpapahayag ng iba't ibang emosyon. Ang ilan ay maaaring mukhang galit, malungkot, mapag-isa, o nalilito, at ang iba ay maaaring magpahayag ng kanilang mga damdamin sa pamamagitan ng mga tanong o pag-uusap. Ang mga tugon/kilos na ito ay natural at maaaring matagalan upang maayos. Sa mga ganitong mahirap na pagkakataon, ang iyong anak ay mangangailangan ng pasensya, pangangalaga, at katiyakan mula sa paaralan at sa tahanan.

Bilang kawani ng distrito ng paaralan, kinikilala namin na ang aming mga mag-aaral ay maaaring mangailangan ng karagdagang suporta. Patuloy naming uunahin ang kalusugang pangkaisipan at kapakanan ng ating mga mag-aaral. Maging maalalahanin sa anumang mga pagbabago sa mga karaniwang pag-uugali ng iyong anak. Kung sa tingin mo ang iyong anak ay nangangailangan ng karagdagang suporta, mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa iyong paaralan at/o i-access ang mga suporta sa komunidad na tinukoy sa dokumento sa ibaba.

Pinahahalagahan namin ang pakikiramay, pangangalaga at paggalang sa komunidad ng aming paaralan na ipinapakita para sa isa't isa sa mga ganitong mabigat na panahon. May pinagdaraanang tayong isang mapangwasak na pagkawala at ang iyong pag-unawa at pasensya ay lubos na pinahahalagahan.

Taos-puso,

Nikolas Kirincic, Principal

،العائلات الأعزاء

احتشد في مدينة فانكوفر طوال عطلة نهاية الأسبوع آلاف الأفراد من الجالية والمجتمع الفلبيني من كافة أرجاء منطقة فانكوفر الكبرى للاحتفال بمهرجان يوم لاو-لاو. وفي مساء يوم السبت أعلنت شرطة فانكوفر تأكيدها للخبر المزن المفجع بمقتل أحد عشر شخصا وإصابة العشرات أثناء الفعالية المذكورة

تتباهى منطقة سوري التعليمية أنها رب عمل العديد من الموظفين الكنديين من أصول فلبينية وكذا التدريس لطلاب وتقديم خدمات لعائلات كندية من أصول فلبينية. يحتمل أن الكثير من أعضاء مجتمع مدارسنا كان من بين الحضور في الفعالية أو كان أقاربهم أو أصدقاءهم من بين الحضور. ما زلنا نحاول استيعاب الأثر الكامل لحادثة يوم السبت المفجعة على مجتمع مدارسنا

عليكم أن تتوقعوا يوم الإثنين أن يسعى موظفونا جاهدين لتقديم الدعم للطلاب وإفساح المجال لهم للتعبير عن مشاعرهم وطرح الأسئلة التي – تدور بخلدهم. رتبت المنطقة التعليمية لمجتمع مدارسنا دعما إضافيا عن طريق مرشدي المنطقة التعليمية وموظفي برنامج «مدارس آمنة لا تترددوا في الاطلاع على ورقة الاسترشاد المخصصة للعائلات هذه التي تتناول تقديم المساندة والدعم للأطفال الذين «Safe Schools» يمررون بفقدان عزيز (باللغة الإنكليزية). (مرفق طيه توجيه من وزارة التعليم ورعاية الأطفال

يتعامل أطفالنا مع الحزن بسبل مختلفة وسنراهم في الأيام والأسابيع والأشهر العديدة القادمة يعبرون عن الكثير من مشاعرهم. قد يبدو بعضهم غاضبا أو حزينا أو منطويا أو مبلبلا، وبعضهم الآخر قد يعبر عن مشاعره بطرح الأسئلة أو المشاركة في نقاش أو حوار. ردود الفعل هذه طبيعية وقد تستغرق وقتا حتى تهدأ. سيحتاج أطفالكم أثناء هذا الوقت العصيب للصبر والرعاية والطمأنينة في المدرسة وفي المنزل

من جانبنا نحن موظفو المنطقة التعليمية، نعلم أن طلابنا قد يحتاجون لمزيد من الدعم والمساندة. سوف نواصل منح الأولوية للصحة النفسية، ورعاية طلابنا. تنبهوا لأية تغييرات قد تظهر على أطفالكم تخالف سلوكهم المعتاد. ولو شعرتم أن طفلكم يحتاج لمزيد من الدعم والمساندة يرجى التواصل مع مدرستكم أو السعي للانتفاع من سبل الدعم والمساندة المجتمعية المذكورة في الوثيقة المرفقة طيه

نقدر أعظم تقدير التعاطف والرعاية والتوقير التي يبديها مجتمع مدارسنا لكل أفرادها في الأوقات العصيبة. مُصابنا عظيم جلال وتفهمكم للأمر. وصبركم محل تقدير وإعزاز

،مع خالص تحياتي