

Tragedy in Uvalde, Texas

President's Office <President.Office@fredonia.edu> To: Faculty/Staff group <facultystaff@fredonia.edu>

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Dear Faculty and Staff,

It was not too long ago when I wrote to you to tell you about my distress regarding the mass shooting in Buffalo. It is with even more pain that I share with you how devastating it has been to watch and listen to news about the recent events at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. As I wrote to you, whenever there is such a violent loss of lives, people of good will everywhere are horrified and concerned. Although this tragedy occurred far away from Western New York, we are all connected and its impact is not place-bound. For those of us who are parents, it is easy to feel another level of connection.

As people of good will, it is not difficult to empathize with the pain and suffering of others. It is with this background that I share my sorrow for this tragedy with you as a community. I know that you, too, must be feeling sad and troubled by the killings of those young children and two of their teachers. There might be a feeling of helplessness and a sense that there is nothing that we can do about this. Yet, again, I appeal to you to remember, in your own way, the community in Uvalde, Texas, and the parents and families impacted directly by this tragedy. I am open to any suggestions that you might have for how we might support each other and those impacted by this violence.

If your faith includes believing in the power of prayers, then please remember the victims in your prayers. My prayer is not only that the families and the community of Uvalde be comforted and healed, but that we will not continue to see these tragedies in the future.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts with you.

Very truly yours, Dr. K

Stephen H. Kolison, Jr., Ph.D. President and Professor



280 Central Avenue 138 Fenton Hall Fredonia, NY 14063 716.673.3456 www.fredonia.edu