

Connecticut Association of School Psychologists Southbury, Connecticut 06488 Sarah Gelish, President \*Eric Elias, President-Elect

## For Immediate Release: CASP's Response to today's events in Uvalde, Texas

Colleagues,

Once again, we are reaching out to you after another shooting that has occurred at a school in our country. While we stand united with the community of Uvalde, Texas, as a society our thoughts and prayers need to transition to policy and change. We are approaching the 10th anniversary of the shooting that occurred at Sandy Hook Elementary School and communities are still being torn apart from gun violence and other forms of traumatizing events. As an organization, we will continue to advocate in the best interest of our schools, our children, our families, and our colleagues to enact sensible laws regarding school and community safety. We must turn this pain to action. Our children have a right to feel safe in their homes, in their communities, and at school.

Earlier Tuesday the National Association of School Psychologists shared resources to support staff, students, and families who have been exposed to traumatic events such as today's event in Uvalde, Texas. Those resources can be found here: <a href="https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-safety-and-crisis/school-violence-resources">https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-safety-and-crisis/school-violence-resources</a>

Locally, should you find yourself or your staff and students needing support, please feel free to reach out to <u>CASP, 2-1-1, Regional Behavioral Health Action</u> <u>Organizations (RBHAOs)</u>, or the <u>Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis</u> <u>Preparation</u>.

It is our role as School Psychologists to make today better than yesterday for the staff and students we work with on a daily basis. As you enter your school buildings today, know that your work does not go unrecognized and that you are appreciated. Together, we will ensure that the tomorrow's include the basic right of feeling safe in school for all students and staff, at all times, in all states, all across our country.

Our very best

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Additional information regarding the Connecticut Association of School Psychologists can be obtained by contacting Rebecca Rivera, CASP Secretary at rivera.rebecca@newfairfieldschools.org