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Jonathan P. Raymond, Superintendent

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Katrina Ye Student Board Member Dear Sacramento City Unified School District Families and Friends:

Today our hearts and thoughts are with the families and staff of Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut. This horrific loss of life has shaken our nation and sparked an important dialogue in all corners of our society about preventing violence in our schools and neighborhoods.

I want to reassure you that Sac City Unified is part of that conversation. This week, SCUSD is meeting with Sacramento Police Department officials and others in our community to review security plans and procedures already in place and discuss what more can be done to make our campuses even safer.

In the meantime, our school staffs will be dedicated this week to maintaining normal routines and procedures to calm and reassure students. We are providing our teachers, principals and staff with tips for responding to student questions and comments about the tragedy in Newtown. These tips also apply to questions that parents may be fielding from their children. The tips and links to other helpful information can be found on our website (www.scusd.edu).

We will also closely monitor our students for any signs that they may need extra help in dealing with this terrible episode. We have counselors, psychologists, nurses, social workers, Youth and Family Resource Center staff and Connect Center staff who are trained to respond to crises and can provide consultation and resources.

Thank you for your support and understanding. Together, we can make it through this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Jonathan P. Raymond Superintendent