

May 25, 2022

The National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE) condemns yesterday's shooting that occurred at the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. Happening less than two weeks after the massacre which took place at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, these shootings punch another hole in the heart of the education community.

As school leaders, we routinely assure parents and guardians that our schools are their children's *home away from home*. Among other things, we pledge to provide our students with the best possible education in the safest and most secure environment.

These shootings not only endanger the educational community, but they also make a mockery of our pledge to provide the security that all educational institutions need.

NABSE calls upon all educators to condemn these senseless shootings. We implore our state and federal officials to pass laws which make it difficult for individuals to readily purchase and use these firearms.

We urge federal officials to provide additional resources to assure that our schools become the safe havens that they ought to be. We further call upon our elected officials to put partisan politics aside and do what is necessary to reduce the circulation of guns and other weapons of mass destruction in our society.

There have been 30 shootings on school property in 2022 thus far. How many more need to die before something is done to stop these senseless killings? What do we tell our young people as they get ready for school? How do we prepare them for what they may perceive as a hostile environment? Our hearts are with the parents, families, the school community, and all who are affected by this senseless and cowardly act.

NABSE offers its support to our colleagues in Uvalde and pledges to do our part in supporting all educators, as they grapple with this most terrifying tragedy.

In solidarity

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Fadhilika Atiba-Weza Executive Director