May 25, 2022

Dear LACCD Colleagues,

Our hearts are very heavy this morning after bearing witness to another horrific mass shooting in our country yesterday at the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. We remember with love and grace the 19 innocent children and the two, brave school schoolteachers who lost their lives, and pray for a healthy recovery for the several others who remain in critical condition.

No child should ever have to be afraid to go to school. When will our nation find the courage and leadership to take affirmative steps to strengthen our laws so that no other family, school or community has to experience a tragedy like this ever again? This senseless violence must come to an end.

As a demonstration of our profound respect to all the victims and their families, our United States flag will be flown at half-staff at our nine colleges until sunset May 28, 2022. Please join me in prayer and quiet reflection for the children, teachers, families and the community of Uvalde.

With a sorrowful heart,

Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Chancellor
Los Angeles Community College District