



TSTA NEWS

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TSTA and NEA devastated by loss of lives in the Uvalde school shooting; demand policymakers address gun violence

Texas State Teachers Association Ovidia Molina and National Education Association President Becky Pringle released the following statement:

Our public schools should be one of the safest places for students and educators — but gunshots shattered the physical safety of the school community in Uvalde — and we lost 15 lives, including 14 children and a teacher.

The National Education Association and the Texas State Teachers Association are devastated by the loss of lives, and we stand together during this difficult moment, sending love and healing thoughts to the victims, their families and the entire Uvalde community. We are ready to work together to ensure that students and members get the emotional and physical support they need to begin the healing process.

This tragedy once again underscores the very real dangers of a culture in which gun violence has become too much the norm and is too often the first way to resolve an argument or a grievance.

We pray for the victims and their families, and we once again demand that state and federal policymakers take action that will keep firearms out of the hands of people who shouldn't have them, whether that requires enacting new laws or promoting better enforcement of the gun laws we already have.

Tragedies such as this keep happening while elected officials do nothing, except, in Texas' case, make firearms more available. How many more mass shootings will there be before these lawmakers finally take responsibility and address the gun issue?

We remain steadfastly committed to ending gun violence in our nation's public schools and communities. We owe it to our students and educators to make our schools safe and welcoming places where every student can thrive.