* We are heartbroken about the passing of one our students earlier today and our thoughts and prayers are with the student’s family, friends and teachers.
* We are working closely with law enforcement officials and enormously appreciate the response from both our police and fire departments.
* Out of respect for the family and due to the student confidentiality, we are unable to share further details about this incident.
* However, we can share a few facts related to our school’s response.
* I am going to share this prepared information but will not be able to take any questions today.
* This morning at approximately 7:50 a.m., Lee’s Summit North initiated lockdown procedures that kept all students and staff members safe following this tragic incident.
* School staff also immediately contacted Lee’s Summit Police and Fire while working closely with our School Resource Officer and School nurse.
* We made the decision to dismiss school at 9:15 a.m. today and have been working throughout the morning to updates parents and community using our SchoolMessenger phone/e-mail service as well as our district website and social media.
* Due to this tragedy, we have made several adjustments to Lee’s Summit North High School activities.
* We have canceled all after-school and evening activities.
* The football games scheduled for tonight has been moved to 2 p.m. Saturday at Lee’s Summit North.
* We are also directing individuals to the Lee ’s Summit Police Department webpage for information related to the ongoing police investigation.
* We have the highest praise for our staff members who did an outstanding job of following our lockdown and safety procedures and who cared for our students throughout the morning.
* Our students are also to be commended for their response, especially their compassion and sensitivity today.
* Our district provided counselors as need at Lee’s Summit North to meet with students and staff members after school was dismissed.
* We will continue to work with our guidance counselors to provide support to the Lee’s Summit North family during the next several weeks.
* I cannot emphasize enough that the safety of our students and our staff and administration for their extraordinary efforts today.
* I often hear that our schools are the heart of the Lee’s Summit community.
* Today, my heart—as well as our community’s heart – is breaking, and we appreciate the many staff and community members who are keeping Lee’s Summit North in their thoughts.
* Thank you for being here and gain I will not be taking questions today.
* Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

Janie Phelan

communications executive director at Lee’s Summit School District.