

Dear LISD Family,

This morning, the Caldwell Sheriff's Office contacted the district to share with us sad and terrible news. Last night, Lauren Garcia, a senior at Lockhart High School, and Isaac Garcia, a former Lockhart student, were both killed in a car accident on 672. The two were sweethearts. We are deeply saddened by this terrible news.

Lauren was on track to graduate this year. She was a spunky, bubbly spirit, who always had a smile on her face. Her teachers remember her as a strong person, focused on her future. She is going to be missed by so many, not only at the campus, but throughout the community.

One of the campus counselors is visiting students in each of Lauren's classes throughout the day to help them through the grief. Additionally, counselors from other campuses will be at the high school campus library today to help any student needing a safe place to process this loss. Principal Deanna Juarez made the announcement to students this morning, letting them know about the counseling services and inviting them to come to the library as needed for help.

Tonight, your child may want to speak with you about the loss of their classmate. Such a loss can have a profound effect on a student. The news may be stressful to you as well as to your child, and it would not be unusual for your child to express him or herself differently in the next few weeks or days. Teens process loss in many different ways. They may want to be with their friends. They may feel they want to do something or talk to someone. Most importantly, be ready to listen. Loss of a friend or classmate will take weeks to process. Contact your child's school counselor if you have ongoing concerns or need suggestions.

We do not yet have any details about memorial or funeral arrangements for Lauren, but we will share them when the information becomes available.

Lockhart is tightly-knit, so a tragic loss such as this is certainly felt throughout the community. Please be assured that assisting students and supporting our community is our main concern during this difficult time. I ask you to please keep Lauren's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you for your continued support.

Truly,

*Susan K Bohn
Superintendent of Schools
Lockhart Independent School District*