

April 27, 2025

Dear VSTA Members,

On behalf of the VSTA, we extend our deepest sympathies and heartfelt support to each of you in the wake of the tragic events surrounding the Lapu-Lapu gathering.

We are devastated to hear of the loss and the deep impact this tragedy has had on the Filipino community, students, educators, and families connected to our schools and especially to the John Oliver Community. It is difficult to find words that can ease the pain or fully capture the grief so many are feeling right now. Please know that you are not alone — your sorrow is shared by many who stand with you in solidarity, mourning the lives affected and honoring the spirit of community that Lapu-Lapu Day represents.

At this time, we acknowledge the strength, resilience, and compassion that define the VSTA membership. Your commitment to supporting one another, your students, and the wider community during such heartbreaking moments is both inspiring and vital. As you face the emotional challenges ahead, we encourage you to lean on each other, seek support, and allow space for healing.

Our thoughts are with the families, friends, and loved ones of those impacted. We remain committed to standing beside you and offering any assistance needed as we work toward a path of collective healing and remembrance.

Please contact our office if you are looking for support as we move forward. 604 873 5570

In solidarity and compassion,

Carmen, Carl and John