Earlier today, Wasatch County School District learned from the Heber City Police about an armed standoff that eventually ended in the death of an individual from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot. This individual was assigned to Heber Valley Elementary as a student teacher from January to March of this year and has been employed as a teaching aide at HVE since the end of April.

The School District expresses condolences to the family and friends of all who were impacted by the events leading up to this death as well as those dealing with the consequences associated with it.

The Heber City Police are continuing their investigation into these events, including reports about a sexual assault on a teen-aged girl. For more information on that investigation, please contact the Heber City Police Department.

At the present time, we are not aware of evidence that this behavior extended beyond this one event. While we are not aware of any reports of other incidents of inappropriate behavior with children at the school where he worked, we will continue to work with Heber City Police as they investigate this matter fully to be certain that the children in our schools remain safe. We are looking into his contact with any of the students in Wasatch County School District to see if there are other victims who may need our assistance.

We especially extend our concern to the assault victim and her family. We will have counselors available at both Wasatch High School (435-654-0640) and at Heber Valley Elementary School (435-654-0112) for students or staff members who may need assistance in dealing with these events.