

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The following message was shared with the on-campus community today and we wanted to share it with you as well.

Dear Lewis & Clark Community,

A tragic accident occurred on our campus last night. A few students attached hammocks to free-standing columns that are part of the historic grape arbor in the lower estate garden on the undergraduate campus. One of the columns fell inward, causing serious injuries to three students. Two of these students were transported to the hospital and are recovering. However, despite efforts to provide emergency aid, the third student did not survive. The family has requested privacy during this time. This includes not releasing his name.

I am a parent myself and I, along with the entire Lewis & Clark community, are devastated by this loss. My heart goes out to his family and friends. We will do everything we can to support our students recovering in the hospital and those on campus who have been impacted by this tragedy.

Space has been made available in the Flanagan Chapel for anyone seeking quiet reflection. We will let the campus know if and when memorial services are planned.

Grief counselors have also been working with students, faculty and staff impacted by this incident and will continue to be available. Employees can get help by emailing hr@lclark.edu. Students can email ypsl@lclark.edu for assistance with counseling. The dean of the College of Arts and Sciences has also asked professors to be flexible regarding missed classes.

Sincerely,

President Robin Holmes-Sullivan

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