

# Macomb County bus drivers gather to support colleagues in Oxford school district

A caravan of at least 12 school districts drive to high school to pray



*Bus drivers gather at Chippewa Valley Administration Building on Cass Avenue prior to departing for Oxford. MITCH HOTTS — THE MACOMB DAILY*

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A caravan of school buses from at least one dozen Macomb County and neighboring school districts drove to Oxford High School Wednesday evening to demonstrate their support for that Oakland County community.

Escorted by two Clinton Township police vehicles, the caravan left the Chippewa Valley Schools Administration Building en route to Oxford where they planned to hold a candlelight prayer service at the school.

“We wanted to pay our respects and show them they are loved,” said Michelle Brazier, a Chippewa Valley bus driver who organized the countywide effort. “We want them to know we care about them deeply. Their wound hearts have been shattered.”

School bus drivers from the Almont, Anchor Bay, Armada, Center Line, L’Anse Creuse, New Haven, Roseville, Romeo, South Lake, Utica, and Warren Consolidated districts, along with some family members, took part in the display.



*Connie Cowell, a bus driver for Chippewa Valley Schools, places an Oxford placard in a bus window to underscore the reason for the caravan. MITCH HOTTS — THE MACOMB DAILY*

Once on Oxford school grounds, the group planned to sign the school’s memorial banner, light candles and deliver memorial tributes to their transportation colleagues.

Brazier, who organized the caravan in about 24 hours, said it was important to show how the school communities are “one big family.”

“I am the mother of six sons and it would literally kill me to lose one of them. Children are a beautiful gift from God. I can’t even imagine the pain of what their parents are going through,” she said. “It’s a pain that will never heal.”



Buses depart from  
*Chippewa Valley Schools en route to Oxford Wednesday night. MITCH HOTTIS – THE MACOMB DAILY*

Another bus driver, Connie Cowell, agreed.

“The situation is just horrific,” Cowell said. “We deal with students on a daily basis. I couldn’t imagine losing my students in that way. It’s simply heartbreaking.”

Fifteen-year-old Ethan Crumbley of Oxford was charged last week as an adult with terrorism, murder and other counts in the shooting that killed four people and injured seven others. He is being held without bond. His parents are charged with involuntary manslaughter and were arrested in the basement of a Detroit building after a manhunt that involved local, state and federal authorities.