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Why are we talking about this?

- Not here to scare you
- Things don't always go according to plan
- You react how you practice
- Want you to know there are options

There have been over 300 school shootings in the U.S. since 2013 – an average of about one a week ... We want you to be prepared.

What kind of Drills do you have at
School?



FIRE



Earthquake



Lets talk about...

Previous Response Options

Preparing yourself

Surviving a Violent Intruder

Active Shooter

Preparing for a violent intruder event is often overlooked. Why?

Well, it's a scary and uncomfortable thought. It's not a natural disaster, and it's caused by a person. People think it won't happen to them or would rather not acknowledge the possibility. "Not at my school."



- Traditional response evolved into the defensive strategy of Securing in Place, called LOCKDOWN.
- Lockdown is a valuable option, BUT it is not a one size fits all response.
- What happens if the event begins in the very room you're in?

Any complete procedure/protocol might look good on paper. But when a real life scenario comes that doesn't "fit the procedure"... things can fall apart quickly and that usually has tragic consequences.

Columbine High School

April 20, 1999

Alert

Lockdown

- It was how they were trained but it didn't fit the situation

The A.L.I.C.E. Program

Alert

Lockdown

Inform

Counter, and or

Evacuate

Alert

Do it as soon as possible!

- This will often come from the PA system
- Should include the location of the danger, if known
- You should **not** pull the fire alarm or activate other natural disaster alerts; this could end up causing more harm than good

Alert

Information to 911:

- Location of the situation
- Number of shooters / violent person(s)
- Physical descriptions of person(s)
- Number and type of weapons seen
- Number of potential victims at the location



Lockdown

- Lock the door (if possible)
- Barricade – Find something heavy
- Stay out of doorways and away from windows, but plan to counter
- Do you close the blinds and turn off the lights?
 - Blinds – Police can see in, and you can see out ... So can the intruder.
 - Lights – You may have the advantage, but can you see obstructions?

Inform

- This is about providing real-time information whenever possible.
- Where the danger was last seen/heard
- Unsafe exit routes
- Help is on the way
- Not just for 911 ... The whole building should know if possible
- PA systems are great for this

Counter

- This is the option most people have a hard time with. “You want me or my kid to do WHAT?!” The key word here is option.
- If left with the choice of being a sitting duck or countering, which would you rather do?
- Distract to take down or escape
- Interrupt the OODA Loop (Observe, Orient, Decide, Act)
- Throw things, yell, create chaos! Surprise is your friend.

You have options:

Counter – Fight back, ultimately eliminating the threat or giving yourself a chance to escape.



Evacuate / Escape

- Be aware of your exits
- Do you know where the shooter is? Close or far? (hopefully you'll be informed)
- Where are you going to go?
- Leave your stuff behind. We can replace that fancy backpack; we cannot replace you.
- If all else fails, just keep running. We'll find you.

Counter, and or Evacuate?

- The choice to evacuate is not the sole choice of an teacher or law enforcement officer.
- You may be walking the halls or without a teacher when something happens
- Law Enforcement may not be there for awhile.



Things to Remember...

Most of the time Victims are selected at random ...
Who is the easiest target?

Event is unpredictable and evolves quickly

Knowing what to do can save lives

ACTIVE SHOOTER

HOW TO RESPOND

When an Active Shooter is in your vicinity, you must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with the situation.

Natural reactions are Fight, Flight or Freeze.
Prepare yourself ... DO NOT FREEZE!



Common Sense, just not Common Knowledge

Alert

Lockdown

Inform

Counter

Evacuate



A.L.I.C.E. is **NOT** a linear, progressive response.

It allows for change. Things may not go as planned. The intruder may be aware of how the school responds to an active shooter situation and plan accordingly. It's harder to plan for something when you don't know what to expect.

Response – Important Information

The first officers to arrive on scene will not stop to help the injured. Expect rescue teams to follow initial officers. These rescue teams will treat and remove injured.

Once you have reached a safe location, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control, and all witnesses have been identified and questioned. Do not leave the area until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so.

When Law Enforcement arrives:

- Remain calm and follow instructions
- Drop items in your hands (bags, jackets, phones)
- Raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid quick movements towards officers, such as holding on to them for safety
- Avoid pointing, screaming or yelling
- Do not ask questions when evacuating

What have we learned?

Let's go back to Columbine

Are you prepared?

A.L.I.C.E. & Department of Homeland Security online

Talk with your local emergency services

Talk with your family

Talk with your teachers

Pre-plan and run scenarios in your mind



And now...





Thanks for inviting us.

Tillamook County Sheriff's Office

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