

## ALICE Script - secondary schools

*This is an introduction of ALICE protocol for secondary students. The following serves as a framework for introducing ALICE in simple, understandable and grade appropriate language for our student population. FPS is providing this script for all teachers to use as common language when speaking to students on this important topic. Please read the below text to students.*

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The thought of a “hostile intruder” in our building is not a pleasant thought, but sometimes we have to discuss unpleasant ideas so that we are prepared. I’m sure you have maybe even thought about what you would do in a dangerous situation in our school. You may have even spoken with your friends or a parent about it.

Farmington Public Schools is committed to a “safe, respectful and caring environment.” You need to know that the best way to deal with a “hostile intruder” is to stop him or her before anything bad happens. This is most effectively done through sharing information. Many of the sad tragedies we see on the news that have occurred in school started with that person sharing a statement or a threat. For FPS to have a “safe, respectful and caring environment” we need our students to communicate with us as trusted adults. Basically, I want to encourage you that “if you see something, say something.”

In these moments, please know that you WILL be taken seriously if you overhear a strange conversation or if you see a concerning post online or see an odd note. Please share that strange conversation with someone like a parent, teacher, administrator, cafeteria worker, custodian or bus driver. Telling someone may save a life! You cannot hope the person was joking or that it’s none of your business. Sharing information allows people to help. Sharing information can save lives and help others.

However, if something were to happen, we want to give you options as we try and provide a “safe, respectful and caring environment.”

One way to provide options is to share that we will do “lockdowns” differently for the rest of this year and moving forward. We will not sit in the corner as our only way of hiding. We will instead spread out, away from the door and stand on your feet with the door locked.

From now on we will use the procedure called ALICE. ALICE stands for “Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate.”

**Alert** – Use clear language to share the information of an event.

**Lockdown** – Doors are locked to provide time barrier and give students and teachers time to recognize the threat and decide how to react.

**Inform** – If possible, keep teachers, students and police up to date on an intruder’s location inside the school.

**Counter** – Apply skills to distract and confuse.

**Evacuate** – leave the premises and get away from the danger as soon as possible.

Know that when we practice our lockdown drills there are two important things to remember:

1. The adult will give directions, listen to them.
2. Drills are important work, treat them that way.

Today, the focus of our drill will be to lock down our school and classrooms. During the drill the staff will work with you to talk through the following questions:

- How will we communicate with others about what's happening?
- How can we barricade our classroom entrances if necessary?
- How can we escape our room if necessary?

After the drill, administration will meet with our school safety team to talk through how the drill went and to help figure out answers to questions that may arise during the drill.

Please remember, we prepare because we want everyone to be safe. Having a great school is making sure that we're taking care of each other and being prepared for unexpected and unlikely events. Thanks for your help with this.