



Dr. Marlin Berry
Superintendent
Dr. Virginia Abernathy
Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Charles Lee
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Dear Parents and Guardians:

The safety and security of our students is always our top priority. We have a strong partnership with our local law enforcement to help with our day-to-day security as well as emergency preparedness. We continuously work to improve our safety plans and have made updates to our facilities, fencing, and camera systems.

Just as we conduct drills for the unlikely event that we have a tornado, fire, or earthquake, we also periodically practice a calm and appropriate lockdown/intruder drill with students.

The U.S. Department of Education, the FBI, Homeland Security, and FEMA recommend having plans that include decision-making and options rather than responding with a lockdown-only approach in the unlikely event of a school intruder. To improve our safety and security plans, the Rogers School District has adopted the nationally recognized ALICE program as a pro-active set of response options to an active school intruder. ALICE is an acronym for:

Alert – Let others know if you see or hear a threat.

Lockdown – If evacuation is not a safe option, hide in a safe place. Lock and barricade the door if possible.

Inform – Communicate information about the intruder's location and description to help with decision-making.

Counter – Apply skills to distract, confuse and gain control. Use noise, objects and movement to disrupt the intruder's ability to focus and harm.

Evacuate – When it is safe, evacuate. This is the preferred option, if it can be done safely.

Earlier this school year, Rogers Public Schools teachers and staff were trained in using these methods in the event of an emergency. In the coming weeks, students will watch a short video and be taught an age-appropriate lesson about ALICE and our new "enhanced lockdown" procedures. The ALICE training recognizes that students should first and foremost look for guidance from adults but gives both students and staff additional ways to respond if needed.

The videos of the training are available for you to review on the district website under School Programs>Safety and Security.

Our goal is to provide students and staff with information and options to keep them safe.

Sincerely,

Charles Lee
Asst. Superintendent for General Administration