



September 21, 2018

Dear Families of St. Francis of Assisi,

We are committed to providing the safest possible environment for our students. Over the last year, we have taken steps in securing our schools with new security systems, shatter proof film for our entrances, enhanced emergency procedures, and a new monitored entry system for our extended care entrance at the elementary school. But, what if an intruder enters or is already in the building?

Our school has enhanced the lockdown procedures that we, as well as experts across the country, believe will increase the chance of survival during an active shooter incident. The enhancements we will teach our staff and students are known as ALICE. What does ALICE mean?

Alert: We will get the word out using clear concise language and describe the location of the event.

Lockdown: This is still a good starting point. The lockdown will include locking the door but also barricading to deny entry.

Inform: Continual communication keeping the staff and students informed allows for good decision making.

Counter: Apply skills of movement, noise, distance, distractions and using our overwhelming numbers to gain control of the situation, as is age and ability appropriate. This is only if Evacuation and Lockdown is not possible.

Evacuate: Reduce the number of potential targets for the shooter, and reduce chances of injuries resulting from friendly fire when help arrives.

In NO WAY are we asking or teaching our students or staff to make any attempt to subdue an armed gunman outside of their secure area. However, we will provide them with options that, if faced with a life or death situation, can be applied to greatly enhance their chance of survival. These options include evacuating, barricading the door, and protecting oneself by any means necessary should an armed intruder enter their room.

(Over)

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Our schools will be introducing these concepts to our students with the understanding that the implementation will be age appropriate. However, before we implement these concepts we want our families to be well informed so that you can have conversations with your child/ren about the concept of ALICE and the importance of being prepared.

We are having a parent informational meeting on **Tuesday, October 9th at 6:30 at the Waldo Church Site**. Officer Melissa Wiesner from the Two Rivers Police Department will be our presenter. She is a certified ALICE instructor that travels around the nation to train schools and businesses. We were fortunate enough for her to train our entire staff at our August in-service on the concepts of ALICE.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask either one of us.

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle L. Kapinos".

Kyle L. Kapinos, Elementary School Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Thiele".

Steve Thiele, Middle School Principal

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