



Katie McCoy, Principal • Jeremy Miller, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety and security of our schools is of the utmost importance. To that end, we continuously review our safety plans and procedures and seek to employ the most current recommendations for the safety of students and staff. In years past, our primary response to a security threat was to implement a school-wide “lockdown.” Today, however, it is the recommendation of the US Department of Education, International Association of Chiefs of Police, FEMA, and the FBI that schools adopt active plans which include decision making and options in the unlikely event of a school intruder situation.

As an update to its existing security measures, Souderton Area School District has adopted ALICE, a nationally recognized school safety protocol. ALICE is a proactive set of responses to an active school intruder event, which empowers individuals to make informed decisions.

ALICE stands for:

Alert
Lockdown
Inform
Counter
Evacuate

Working in conjunction with local police departments, all District employees have attended, and will continue to attend, trainings on the five elements of ALICE. Starting very soon, District police officers will help to facilitate the first phase of training for our middle level students. The trainings at our middle schools as well as all other schools has been tailored to be developmentally appropriate for the age of the students. This first phase of training for middle level students will be conducted in small group meetings between our school police officers and students with the goal of explaining ALICE and answering all student questions.

Throughout the year we will progress through additional trainings with our students to ensure the safest possible environment. One of our many goals is to communicate very clearly with parents as our students progress through the phases of ALICE training. Together it is very important to remind our students that they are in a safe school, surrounded by people who care about them, and there is a plan should a dangerous situation occur.

Respectfully,

Katie McCoy

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Principal

Jeremy Miller

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Assistant Principal