

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are committed to providing the safest possible environment for our students and staff by taking proactive steps in securing our schools. We want to ensure they have a safe place to learn, work, and grow. To maintain our safety standards and adapt to the societal threat of a violent intruder inside our school, we have adopted ALICE proactive strategies.

Adoption of a lockdown-only response has been deemed insufficient by the Department of Education, independent researchers, and law enforcement. Society is dictating that we change our thought process on safety, and ALICE options-based strategies help increase survivability. We found the ALICE strategies to be the most adopted by schools across the country, and ALICE training helps to maintain our compliance with the Federally recommended guidelines.

ALICE empowers individuals to participate in their survival using proactive options-based responses. ALICE is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. I want to assure you that we went to great lengths to understand exactly what each option entails. We are very comfortable with all the ALICE proactive strategies to empower our students and staff to survive until help arrives. We will implement these safety strategies in age- and ability-appropriate ways.

Our staff has been fully trained on the ALICE strategies through online classes and hands-on training with our in-house ALICE Certified Instructors and law enforcement partners. We are very pleased with the ongoing training, in addition to the comprehensive roll-out procedure ALICE Training Institute had in place, and believe this remains the right choice for our students, staff, schools, and the community.

Please reach out if you have any questions or would like clarification on how the ALICE strategies are utilized in SLSD.

Sincerely,
Dr. Deanna L. Webb
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School Safety & Security Coordinator
Southern Lehigh School District