

SAFETY DRILLS –

When it comes to safety in schools today, many schools are not only implementing fire, tornado, and earthquake drills but lockdown drills as well. Lockdown drills are a set of procedures designed to have the occupants in a building familiarize themselves with ways to protect themselves against an internal threat, such as an armed intruder.

In general, school lockdown drills involve teaching children and adults how to hide and/or barricade themselves in classrooms to protect themselves. We formerly referred to Lockdown drills as Code Red. However, we are now standardizing our Codes and using the Standard Response Protocols of Lockout, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter. Each of these are described on the information flyer on the back of this page.

The Munster Police Department participates in these drills so they can familiarize themselves with the building and the procedures. We appreciate the support of the MPD.

What Parents Can Do About School Safety

Some of the questions parents have about school safety may include how school lockdown drills are implemented, what other plans are in place to help kids stay safe, and how to handle kids' questions or anxiety about school safety. Here are some ways parents can assess how prepared their child's school is for an emergency.

- Learn about the school safety drills that are being conducted in your child's school. Please see below for information about other drills in the school.
- Find out what your child knows about lockdown drills. Ask your child if she knows what these drills are and ask her if she knows what to do in the event of an emergency like a dangerous intruder.
- Reassure your child that these drills, like fire drills, are just to practice how to stay safe in the extremely unlikely event that someone dangerous enters the school. If participating in school lockdown drills triggers any anxiety in your child about scary news events like the Sandy Hook shootings, talk to your child to find out what he/she's thinking, what he/she thinks she knows, and what he/she's afraid of or worried about. Young children often have lots of misconceptions about things they see and hear, so you may need to clear up any confusion your child may have about school shootings or lockdown drills.

If have any questions regarding safety drills, please contact myself or Officer Ghrist for more information.

Today, our students practiced their first Lockdown Drill of the year! It was very successful and our students did a great job!



STUDENT SAFETY

A critical ingredient in the safe school recipe is the classroom response to an incident at school. Weather events, fire, accidents, intruders and other threats to student safety are scenarios that are planned and trained for by students, teachers, staff and administration.

SRP

Our school is expanding the safety program to include the Standard Response Protocol (SRP). The SRP is based on these four actions. Lockout, Lockdown, Evacuate and Shelter. In the event of an emergency, the action and appropriate direction will be called on the PA.

LOCKOUT - "Secure the Perimeter"

LOCKDOWN - "Looks, Lights, Out of Sight"

EVACUATE - "To the Announced Location"

SHELTER - "For a Hazard Using a Safety Strategy"

TRAINING

Please take a moment to review these actions. Students and staff will be trained and the school will drill these actions over the course of the school year.

More information can be found at <http://iloveuguy.org>

LOCKOUT SECURE THE PERIMETER

Lockout is called when there is a threat or hazard outside of the school building.

STUDENTS:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

TEACHERS

- Recover students and staff from outside building
- Increased situational awareness
- Do business as usual
- Take roll, account for students



LOCKDOWN LOCKS, LIGHTS, OUT OF SIGHT

Lockdown is called when there is a threat or hazard inside the school building.

STUDENTS:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence

TEACHERS:

- Lock classroom door
- Lights out
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Wait for First Responders to open door
- Take roll, account for students



EVACUATE TO A LOCATION

Evacuate is called to move students and staff from one location to another.

STUDENTS:

- Bring your phone
- Leave your stuff behind
- Form a single file line
- Show your hands
- Be prepared for alternatives during response.

TEACHERS:

- Grab roll sheet if possible
- Lead students to Evacuation Location
- Take roll, account for students



SHELTER FOR A HAZARD USING SAFETY STRATEGY

Shelter is called when the need for personal protection is necessary.

SAMPLE HAZARDS:

- Tornado
- Hazmat

SAMPLE SAFETY STRATEGIES:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room

STUDENTS:

- Appropriate hazards and safety strategies

TEACHERS:

- Appropriate hazards and safety strategies
- Take roll, account for students

