

Dear Centre USD 397 Parents and Families:

The safety and security of Centre School students is of greatest importance to us. Guided by our mission for student safety, members of the Centre Board of Education and administration regularly review district policies, practices, and facilities concerning ‘School Safety’, risk assessment and crisis management. While we are hopeful a school safety event, such as active shooter event, is an experience we never have to face, we must prepare and train for such an event to provide the highest level of safety for our students. Following more than a year of research, and active engagement with the crisis lockdown practices of A.L.I.C.E. an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate, our District Safety Committee is adopting the A.L.I.C.E plan for safety crisis management.

As a matter of common belief, crisis lockdown includes locking doors, turning out lights, minimizing sound, and moving away from windows. Practices embedded in A.L.I.C.E. include the use of technology and information so staff and students can make informed decisions in a crisis, remove as many people as possible from the danger zone, and provide training so those involved in a crisis will have a better chance of surviving.

*For the A.L.I.C.E. plan to be successful, it will be implemented in phases, including:*

**Phase 1** – A DISTRICT SAFETY COMMITTEE consisting of a panel of school principal, teachers, nurse, parents, district administration, and classified staff, provide input into how these concepts will be implemented with staff and students.

**Phase 2** – District staff will be trained. Local law enforcement officers, Jessie Hiebert, and Sheriff Robert Craft are certified A.L.I.C.E. trainers.

**Phase 3** – When certified staff members have been trained and are ready, we will start working with students. **More than 90% of Centre staff have participated in A.L.I.C.E. training and completed certification.** As with most changes, this plan will take some time to fully incorporate into our district. School safety is top priority, and we want to get it right.

Before drills are conducted with students, we will work with students to help them understand the “why” for drills. It will be explained that teachers have options, and any decision made will be based on the situation and the best information available.

- Grades PreK-2 students will be trained through teacher led activities and Idea Book [“I’M NOT SCARED...I’M PREPARED! BECAUSE I KNOW ALL ABOUT ALICE](#)
- Grade 3 – students will participate in teacher led ALICE training discussions along with an ALICE training video used by other schools. Please see the provided link to the video: <https://youtu.be/f1dBZrGZDU0>
- Grades 4&5 – students will participate in teacher led ALICE training discussion along with an Alice training video used by other schools. Please see the provided link to the video: <https://youtu.be/IZIJIplZiZk>

- Grades 6-12 – students will participate in teacher led ALICE training discussion including an Alice video, as well as a presentation provided by Alice certified law enforcement (Jessie Hiebert of Hillsboro Police Department).  
<https://youtu.be/dfWbyRPcCYo>

With the implementation of training and practices of A.L.I.C.E. safety drills, parents may want to take this opportunity to visit with their children regarding personal safety and security. Younger students may need reminders of safe practices in order for them to make good decisions related to their personal safety.

We will have additional information pertaining to the implementation of our plan on the district website and on Facebook.

If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Susan Beeson or Mr. Donald Raymer at (785) 983-4321.

Sincerely,  
Centre Schools District Safety Committee