What to do in case of a school emergency

➔ DO keep your phone close by to receive any current notifications from the school

➔ DO tune in to local radio and television, but only rely on official communication from school or public safety officials

➔ DO listen for official information regarding reunification with your child

➔ DO NOT call or rush to your child’s school. Your presence may interfere with the emergency response, diverting attention from managing the threat.

➔ DO NOT try to call or text your child at school so that they can focus on safely following all emergency procedures.

Reunification

Parents and guardians will be directed to their child's specific location through phone/email/text from school or public safety officials. Students will ONLY be released to adults who are documented as emergency contacts. Please understand that the reunification process will take time. Parents and families are urged to be patient as school and public officials work toward safe reunification of families as quickly as possible.

More school safety resources are available at:

https://www.fwsu.org/safety
The Role of Parents and Families

➔ Be sure your **emergency contact information** is always current and up to date with the school.

➔ In the event of an emergency, the school must rely on contacts and plans on file with the school.

➔ FWSU schools send alerts with School Messenger to communicate with parents via phone, text, and email. Schools also use Schoology for communication with families.

➔ Login with your Schoology parent account to stay connected with school information.

**ALERT.**
We will get the word out using clear concise language to describe the nature and location of the event.

**LOCKDOWN.**
This is still a good starting point, but lockdown will include locking doors and also barricading classrooms to deny entry.

**INFORM.**
Continuous communication will keep staff and students informed to allow for good decision-making.

**COUNTER.**
Apply skills of movement, noise, distance, distraction, and use our overwhelming numbers to gain control of the situation in ways that are age and ability appropriate. This is only if evacuation and lockdown is not possible and a room has been breached.

**EVACUATE.**
Reduce the number of potential targets for the shooter and reduce the chance of injuries resulting from friendly fire when help arrives.

*These steps are non-linear and may occur in any order appropriate to the emergency situation.*

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**Explanation of School Commands**

**“Clear the Halls”**

**Purpose:** To clear the hallways because (1) emergency personnel need unobstructed access throughout the building, (2) a student or adult issue necessitates cleared halls for safety and/or confidentiality, and/or (3) a physical plant emergency creates a safety hazard. Clearing the halls is not intended to provide increased security.

**“Secure the Building”**

**Purpose:** To secure the exterior of the building in an effort to prevent a possible safety threat from accessing students, staff, and visitors.

**“Initiate ALICE”**

**Purpose:** To proactively handle the threat of a violent intruder.