



Sun Prairie Area School District

Futures depend on us...every child, every day.

The Sun Prairie Area School District adopted active threat procedures known as A.L.I.C.E. during the 2015-16 school year. This is an acronym for **A**lert, **L**ockdown, **I**nforn, **C**ounter, and **E**vacuate. Using this strategy ensures that all staff and students are trained in a consistent manner to respond to potential acts of violence in any public area. The philosophy of A.L.I.C.E. is to use information, technology, and actions in a way so staff and students can make informed decisions in a crisis, removing as many people as possible from potential danger zones, and providing realistic training to improve the chance of survival. The A.L.I.C.E. approach has been identified, reviewed, and supported by a team of individuals who represent our district, law enforcement agencies, and emergency responders. A.L.I.C.E. has been endorsed by the Department of Education, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Dane County Sheriff, and the Sun Prairie Police Department. It is considered "best practice" to respond to an active threat.

The A.L.I.C.E. procedures were implemented in phases. School district staff, administrators, and school resource officers participated in training. All district staff participated in follow-on training from certified trainers. Staff then taught students the components of A.L.I.C.E. in an age appropriate manner. After staff members and students practiced the skills they learned in A.L.I.C.E., all staff and students participated in drills. Now that A.L.I.C.E. is a part of our district safety and security procedures, staff participate in refresher training annually and they provide students with training. Teachers use information from their training to address the topic of active intruders and teach their students the A.L.I.C.E. procedures prior to an active intruder drill. Our district staff and the Sun Prairie Police Department hold regular active threat drills at all school sites. These drills are held in addition to the fire and severe weather drills.

A.L.I.C.E. encourages individuals to make the best decision on the response based on their location and the proximity to the active threat. The components of the procedures include:

- A - Alert
- L - Lockdown and barricade
- I - Inform
- C - Counter
- E - Evacuate

These steps do not happen in a linear order, but in the order that best responds to the situation. In many cases students and staff will evacuate the area of danger, moving to a safe location a long distance from the danger. In other cases, students and staff will lockdown and barricade the space they are in while they continue to identify safe evacuation routes. All actions are taken to keep everyone well informed and to deter anyone from harming others.

Reminders of safe practices help us to make good decisions about personal safety. Parents/guardians can help prepare their children for the A.L.I.C.E. plan by reinforcing the following concepts at home:

- There are people who may wish to harm them.
- Self-confidence comes from trying things that are difficult and get easier as we practice them.
- There are many solutions and options when faced with a problem.
- When we are prepared for difficult situations, we make informed decisions and have more control.
- Our children are smart and capable, when they have the knowledge about how to prepare and respond.
- Help your child identify and assess possible crisis situations.
- Have your child demonstrate the ability to get away from someone who has their hands on them.
- Have your child explain the different safety drills they practice at school and when they use them.
- Have your child name where they need to go from their classroom during an evacuation (depends on which classroom they are in).
- Discuss the importance of following the teacher's directions at all times.

Information regarding the A.L.I.C.E. plan can be found at <http://www.alicetraining.com/>. Please contact your child's home school principal if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for supporting the safety of all of our children, staff, and visitors. Please visit the link to our [District Safety & Security page](#) on the website.

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Sun Prairie Area School District
Consultant for Safety