



September 17, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The GREAT Academy's strategy for dealing with Violent Critical Incident (VCI) is a procedure known as the A.L.I.C.E. plan. A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Prior to the A.L.I.C.E. plan, lockdown procedures involved the staff locking their doors, moving students to a part of the room where they could not be seen, and quietly remaining there until an "all clear" announcement was given. The A.L.I.C.E. plan offers a different philosophy in light of recent school violence. The philosophy of A.L.I.C.E. is to use technology and information in a way so that staff and students can make informed decisions in a crisis, remove as many people as possible from the danger zone, and provide realistic training so that those involved in a crisis have a better chance of surviving.

The A.L.I.C.E. plan is implemented and practiced a number of times during the year at The GREAT Academy. The practical training of the students using A.L.I.C.E. has begun. This week, we will be conducting a drill simulating a shooter on campus to practice decision making during a Violent Critical Incident (VCI).

Your student will be presented with the option to lockdown the classroom or run out of the school to a designated rally point, based on the information available to them at the moment. While students will not actually evacuate the building during practice this week, we will review the location of the designated rally points.

We understand how scary the thought of a possible Violent Critical Incident can be. We also know that it is best to train students and staff in the best ways to react to various types of situations that could happen so that in the event an incident ever does occur, they are prepared and know what to do to keep themselves safe.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Keisha Matthews

Principal
The GREAT Academy