



January 3, 2023

Dear Madison families,

As part of our ongoing commitment to safety, we wanted to reach out and remind you that from time to time we will be doing various, state-required safety drills. We realize that some drills may create some anxiety, but in an ever-changing world, we have a responsibility to be prepared for many scenarios. Additionally, these drills also prepare students and staff for situations they may encounter off campus as they go about their day-to-day routines.

These drills are not only for the safety of our students and staff while on campus, but also for the safety of others who visit our buildings. We work closely with our local law enforcement partners to provide opportunities for them to use our facilities for after-hours training purposes to ensure events open to the public are as safe as possible for all to enjoy.

Per state guidelines, the district is required to do monthly fire drills, as well as, a tornado or a manmade drill twice per semester. For traditional public schools, one of the manmade drills must be an active shooter drill.

Our schools practice a number of drills at different times to help prepare our students in the event of an emergency. While we hope this is always a drill situation, we want to know we have done all we can to prepare them in the event they ever find themselves in a situation at school – or any other place where safety may become a concern.

Below is a brief description of the types of drills practiced:

**Reverse Evacuation** – this will be used in cases where a threat is outside of the school building. For example, during recess, a stranger approaches the playground or is causing a disturbance nearby.

**Lockdown** – this will be used when there is disruptive behavior. Examples: medical emergency, physical altercation, or person out of control.

**Lockout** – this will be used in incidents not directly involving the schools. For example, a police chase near the school or a bank robbery where the suspect may be at large. All exterior doors will be locked and SROs and administrators will work with local law enforcement to monitor the situation. Classes will continue on a normal schedule, however; no one will be permitted to enter or exit the building.

**Lockdown/Barricade** – this will be used when there is a direct threat against the school (not a bomb threat) and the threat is believed to be en route to the school. Students shelter in place, away from doors and windows, and remain silent until given further instructions.

**A.L.I.C.E.** – this proactive strategy will be used if an intruder is inside the school. This is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Each year our staff is required to complete A.L.I.C.E. training and all buildings work closely with our SROs to ensure all safety protocols are followed, reviewed often, and revised when necessary.

A new edition on the MCHS campus is coming soon to help monitor the safety and security of the parking lot and persons entering campus using student entrances. Later this winter, we will add a security checkpoint on Cub Drive near the baseball field. The purpose behind this security enhancement is student-centered as we have an increased amount of traffic coming and going throughout the day with students traveling to and from classes on the Ivy Tech campus, internships, and pedestrian traffic to cross-campus classrooms. All other access points to the parking lot will be closed to through traffic when the first bell rings and all traffic will have to check in at the new access point on Cub Drive off of Wilson Avenue. Check-in and out procedures will be communicated to staff, students, and parents once completed at some point early in the second semester.

Other enhancements recently added throughout the district include branded window tint on exterior entrances of school buildings, keyless entry for all employees, and a heightened awareness of classroom doors being locked during instructional hours.

Safety is a priority across all of our campuses. Our goal is to work with students and faculty to have them as prepared as possible should a situation arise. We appreciate your partnership and commitment to campus safety.

Dr. Teresa Brown, Superintendent  
Madison Consolidated Schools