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January 25, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Lake Placid Central School District is committed to providing the safest possible environment for our students. Over the years, we have taken many steps to better secure our schools. Exterior doors remain locked throughout the day, security cameras are now in place throughout our buildings, an Anonymous Alerts system is now in place, and our upcoming building project will add new safety features to our buildings. In addition, I want to share with you changes we are presently implementing with our lockdown procedures and our classroom lockdown drills.

For years our standard lockdown has involved locking classroom doors, turning out the lights, and instructing students to hide in a far corner of the room while remaining calm and quiet. However, working with the ALICE Training Institute, we are in the process of adopting new procedures so that we can provide students and staff with additional options should they be needed. We are referring to this new approach as an Enhanced Lockdown. Enhanced Lockdown provides students and staff with options that, if faced with imminent danger, can minimize harm. These options include escaping, barricading the door, and protecting oneself by any means necessary should an intruder enter the room. The procedures can be summarized with the acronym ALICE.

**Alert:** Using clear and concise language to describe the location of any potential threat.

**Lockdown:** This is still a good starting point. The Lockdown will include locking the door but also barricading so as to deny entry.

**Inform:** Continual communication with staff and students to allow for good decision-making

**Counter:** Apply skills of movement, noise, distance, distractions and (when needed) our overwhelming numbers to gain control of the situation, as is age and ability appropriate. This is only if evacuation and lockdown is not possible or ill-advised.

**Evacuate** Reduce the chances of injury resulting from threats and danger until help arrives.

ALICE training emphasizes that the best way to survive an active threat is to empower staff and students to use proactive strategies for the best possible outcome. These changes are

supported by a number of government agencies, including the US Department of Education, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). ALICE protocols are recommended in almost all new guidance documents. We have also articulated these procedural changes in our LPCSD Safety Plan. You can read more about ALICE at [www.alicetraining.com](http://www.alicetraining.com).

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Roger P. Catania  
Superintendent, Lake Placid Central School District