

Safety of students and staff is of the utmost importance to Springfield Public Schools, and while tragic and highly covered by media, school violence is actually quite rare.

We at SPS are acutely aware of the tragic nature of such situations and are committed to equipping our schools with the best practices to keep everyone safe. The way that we have trained for dangerous intruders is not changing it is evolving. SPS is implementing best practices and is working in collaboration with our local law enforcement partners to implement the ALICE method.

ALICE empowers everyone to use his or her best judgment on each unique situation.

ALICE stands for Alert Lockdown Inform Counter Evacuate.

In the fall of 2015 all staff were trained in the updated procedures incorporating the elements of the ALICE principles. Now after thoughtful preparation we are prepared to share the concepts in age appropriate ways with our students.

Springfield Public Schools in our continued partnership with the Springfield Police Department will hold two community nights to allow families an overview of the materials that will be shared with students as well as a time to ask questions of administrators and law enforcement personnel.

We encourage you to join us at one of the following dates:

- November 30, 5:30 p.m., Springfield High School Auditorium
- December 2, 5:30 p.m., Thurston High School Auditorium

Here at Gateways High School we will be training on December 9, 2015. Please don't hesitate to contact us should you have any additional questions. The main office phone number is 541-744-8862.