

Heritage School District #8

"Inspire A Passion For Learning" www.heritage8.org

Superintendent, Tom Davis; HS Principal, Ryan Peyton; JH & Elementary Principal, Kristi Sanders

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Heritage Schools recently conducted teacher and staff training on the A.L.I.C.E. safety response protocol, which the school district is planning to implement as part of our school safety plans. The training was conducted by Lieutenants from the Urbana and Champaign Police Departments who are authorized ALICE trainers, and the Heritage administration have also been certified in ALICE. Our resource officer from Champaign County, Kevin Franzen, and Homer Police Chief John Rouse, are also partnering with the district in implementing ALICE.

Our traditional approach of "lockdown" in case of an active shooter or threat against the school will remain a viable option, especially for students in lower grades.

The ALICE approach empowers our staff and students to make informed decisions to keep them safe. Please be assured we would never teach or ask our students to confront an armed intruder. We will never conduct unsafe or surprise training or drills with students of any age. We will, however, provide students with the knowledge that if faced with a critical situation, there are methods that can be applied that greatly enhance their chances of not being harmed. The ALICE principles include these methods, and we will have age-appropriate discussions with our students on these methods.

As part of the ongoing goal to provide the safest school environment for our children, Heritage has completed projects to upgrade our Homer door locking system, added foyer entry doors at the high school, and have upgraded our security camera systems at both school sites.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please contact your building principal or e-mail me: tom.davis@heritage8.org.

Sincerely,

Tom Davis, Heritage CUSD #8 Superintendent of Schools

ALICE
TRAINING INSTITUTE

Act
Lockdown
Inform
Counter
Evacuate

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