

Hononegah Community High School

ALICE Emergency Response

Frequently Asked Question Sheet

Alert – Lockdown – Inform – Counter – Evacuate

What is the purpose of ALICE?

The philosophy of ALICE is to use technology and information to empower staff and students to make informed decisions in a crisis. In a crisis situation, the ALICE concept is to remove as many people as possible from the danger zone in order to increase the safety and survivability for all.

Who developed ALICE and why?

ALICE was developed by Greg Crane, a law enforcement officer in the Dallas Ft. Worth area, who after the Columbine shooting asked his wife, Lisa, a school principal, "What are y'all doing while the police are making their way to the school?" She explained the typical Code Red/Hard Lockdown procedures used in most schools. Greg saw many problems with this response and set out to develop a response to provide a dynamic response option based on real time information to increase safety and survivability.
<http://www.alicetraining.com/about-us/history/>

How is this different than what we did before (Hard Lockdown)?

The Hard Lockdown was a passive approach to an active dangerous situation. In the past, with Hard Lockdown, we simply locked the doors and waited. ALICE is a pro-active approach to an active dangerous situation. With ALICE, you can make the best decision for yourself based on the information relayed to you. In some circumstances, lockdown may still be the best option; however, we will incorporate a barricade measure which will provide extra time and shelter from a threat to prepare for the next step.

What is expected of staff and students in an ALICE situation?

The expectations of students and staff in the event of an ALICE situation are to take the most appropriate action that leads to the safest conclusion for all involved. All stakeholders will need to quickly process available information, take appropriate action with resolve, and commit fully to those actions whatever they may include until all are safe.

How likely is it that we will ever need to use ALICE procedures?

It is highly unlikely that we will ever encounter a serious crisis situation at Hononegah; however, in the small chance that something dangerous occurs, ALICE procedures give everyone options to keep themselves safe and increase their survivability during the situation.

Can we use cell phones during an ALICE situation?

Yes.

When and where can ALICE responses be applied?

Anywhere and anytime a critical decision needs to be made to increase the safety and security of all.

What is counter and what is expected of me?

“Counter” is an ALICE response that is the last resort and should be used only in the most extreme situations such as when an intruder is near you and cannot be avoided. During a counter event you should be as chaotic as possible by screaming, yelling, and throwing whatever is available to disrupt the intruder’s thought process until evacuation is an option. The counter response is much like “stop, drop, and roll”. We never want to need this response, but, if it is required, we must know how to react to increase the chances of safety and survivability for all.

Where are the rally points for an evacuation, and what does reunification mean?

Rally points are “safer” areas outside the immediate vicinity of the school that students and staff can go to after they have evacuated. The points will be secured by police officers, and medical staff will be on hand to provide support if needed. These points are not reunification points. Parents should not come looking for their sons or daughters here. This will only cause more chaos and make the task at hand harder for Police, EMT, and Fire. Hononegah will be using the six staging areas used for a fire evacuation as the rally points in an emergency situation.

The rally points are:

1. 500 E. Main – Tennis Court
2. Mechanic & Ferry
3. Chapel & Ferry
4. Union & Ferry
5. Franklin & Bleacher
6. Franklin & Liddle

Reunification Points are safe areas farther from the school where students will be reunited with their families. This is where parents should go to be reunited with their sons or daughters. Students will be bused to the reunification points which are:

Stephen Mack Middle School
Roscoe Middle School

Hononegah Staff will contact parents/guardians as to which Middle School their child has been transported to.

What if I drove to school?

In an emergency situation all traffic lanes must remain open in the parking lot for first responders. Therefore, it is essential that everyone report to their assigned rally point.

While we can never address all of the “What if” scenarios that may occur, ALICE provides us the best options to meet the demands of the potential emergency situation involving an intruder. As stated by ALICE trainer Jack Richards, “There are no guarantees in life, and we cannot guarantee that no one will be hurt in a planned determined attack, but we do guarantee that by doing something instead of nothing you will increase your odds of survival.”