



# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SHIOCTON

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## Safety Training Report August 25, 2023

On August 23, 2023 the School District of Shiocton conducted a district-wide safety training with all district staff, as well as the Shiocton Child Care (SCCC) staff and students. Approximately 125 staff members and 40 students, including the District Administrator and the Safety Coordinator, participated in the safety training. The District Administrator was also on campus and participated in the drills. Prior to the drill, our administrative staff and Safety Team Coordinator took time to review the safety philosophy (Run, Hide+, and Fight) with staff, as well as reviewed the procedures to follow in each situation.

Two formal drills were initiated over our public address system between 10:00AM and 10:50AM. Each drill began with the standard announcement, “*Attention! Attention! There is an active shooter in (location)! This is a drill. Attention! Attention! There is an active shooter in (location)! This is a drill.*” Each drill, from the Attention announcement to the all-clear, lasted approximately 20 minutes; administrators were assigned various hallways, restrooms, and learning areas to verify that the run or hide+ procedures were followed.

Each scenario contained a different location for the active shooter and utilized different staff members to ensure that others knew how to make an emergency page (versus feeling the need to wait for an administrator to do so). School staff members were in their classrooms preparing lessons or in large group learning areas for trainings (which afforded several staff the opportunity to employ their critical thinking skills in a new environment). The SCCC staff were engaged in instruction and center time with students in their classrooms. During the drill all doors were checked and found to be secured/locked.

Our district is comprised of two schools: Shiocton Elementary School and Shiocton High School. Additionally, the Shiocton Child Care Center (SCCC) operates within our elementary school. All staff members are specifically trained multiple times per year on the run and the hide+ procedures:

**RUN:** - Know where you would exit the room you are in and which way you would turn – left or right – to access the nearest exit that is farthest from the location of the threat. Staff participate in the physical act of running so that they can also physically experience the decision making that will be needed in an emergency, including where they and their students would run to once outside. The staff also then must consider how they will make their way to the different off-campus evacuation sites when it is safe to do so with their students. We then ask staff to have a Plan B for running out of the building in the event that their first (preferred) path is somehow blocked or unavailable. Finally, staff are asked to take into account the children in their care and give consideration to the abilities and limitations of their children, as well as their ages and needs.

**HIDE+** - In the event that the threat is too close to their location that running out of the learning environment is not safe, staff practice the process of hiding + barricading. All inward opening doors are secured with a ratchet strap and then move heavy furniture in front of the doors if they are able, so as to barricade the door and further deter the intruder from entering their learning area.

Due to liability concerns, we do not provide formal, hands-on training for our teachers related to the **FIGHT** procedures. We briefly describe the process of defending oneself; specifically, we discuss the physical efforts that need to be made to keep the barrel of a fire arm pointed away from themselves and others if at all possible. We caution staff that at no time do we expect them to go hands-on (fight) with an intruder, but that they should be prepared in the event that the threat presents itself in their learning area.

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*“Where Excellence is Expected”*

*The School District of Shiocton does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.*



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Our teachers are trained to lock their classroom door, turn their lights out, move away from sight, maintain silence, and not open the door for any reason. Staff are well versed to listen for the “all clear” message and then to maintain their location until they and their students are released by a member of law enforcement or administration who will use a key to access their learning area. A roll count of students is taken; rooms are outfitted with necessary supplies in the event the lockdown lasts for an elongated timeframe.

After the drills were complete, staff debriefed and provided feedback. This feedback will be reviewed at the upcoming Safety Team meeting. Administration will also review the feedback during their debriefing with a member of the safety team. All concerns will be addressed in a timely manner.

Highlights:

All staff actively participated in the drill. Many staff elected to practice various paths for fleeing the building and spent time outside awaiting the end of the drill despite the 100-degree heat index. Those teachers who remained in their classrooms secured their doors, closed the shades, and turned out the lights. Children were not in the hallway or visible from the hallway in the classrooms. Teachers in the infant and toddler classrooms were able to keep the children quiet. Additionally, we practiced the drill using other staff members so that they had the chance to practice delivering the announcement and so that their colleagues had the opportunity to experience someone else’s voice making the announcement. Even the two substitute teachers and one substitute paraprofessional in attendance for the training successfully secured the rooms they were in during the two scenarios.

Focus areas for the next drill:

Next time, we will incorporate the local police department and fire department. We will also work with Mrs. Jarosh, SCCC Director, to ensure that the two child care teachers who were out of the building on a field trip are aware of the safety procedures and also have the opportunity to RUN and HIDE+.

Certifications:

Our school certifies that this drill was conducted on August 23, 2023 and this written evaluation was sent to and reviewed by the school board on September 11, 2023.

Principal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

School Board President Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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