



*“Building a
Foundation for
Lifelong
Learning”*

CECIL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CCPS EARNS ALICE ORGANIZATIONAL CERTIFICATION

ELKTON, MD (March 29, 2019)- Cecil County Public Schools has attained official organizational certification from the ALICE Training Institute. ALICE is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. The philosophy of ALICE is to use technology and information to enable staff and students to make informed decisions in a crisis.

In order to receive such certification, an organization must show that a minimum of 75% of employees have completed the online training modules over the first two years of implementation, all school-based active shooter drills must be entered and cataloged in the online portal, and appropriate emergency operations procedures must be submitted to the ALICE organization.

In 2017, CCPS joined with the ALICE Training Institute and piloted the implementation at Thomson Estates Elementary, Perryville Middle, and North East High Schools. By August of 2018, staff at all CCPS building sites had received live situational training in partnership with the Cecil County Sheriff's Office.

“This entire process would not have been possible without the partnership and dedication of Sheriff Adams and the Cecil County Sheriff's Office,” stated Dr. Jeffrey Lawson, Superintendent of Schools. “This implementation represents a clear vision between the school system and the Sheriff's Office to put the very best resources, techniques, and training into practice to make every effort to keep all students and adults safe within our buildings.”

This focus on situational awareness and the skills associated with the program are relevant to more than just school response. They also carry over to any situation where an active threat could arise- shopping malls, movie theaters, places of worship, and other public places- something that is, unfortunately, becoming more commonplace in our society.

“Cecil County Public Schools takes a proactive stance on the topic of school safety,” stated John Roush, Director of Student and School Safety. “However, this certification does not represent the end of our work. Our association with ALICE and our partnership with the Sheriff's Office will continue as we work to conduct drills in each of our buildings and continually update staff training.”

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Our Mission: to provide an excellent pre-kindergarten through graduation learning experience that enables ALL students to demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and attitudes required for lifelong learning and productive citizenship in an ever-changing global society.