

Active Threat Response Options

*For use during the discussion portion of the
Active Threat Drill in middle school or high school*

District Safety & Security Council



Ensuring a Safe Environment to Work and Learn



While we hope an actual emergency never happens, we want you to be ready if it does. The **options** we use to help us stay safe when there is an active threat are:

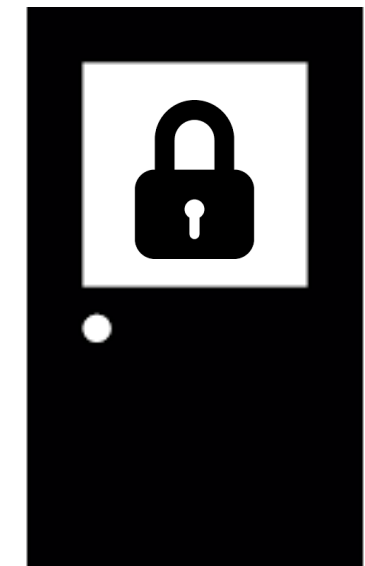
Run

- Cannot Secure your location
- Have a safe, clear path of escape



Hide (Lockdown)

- Have indirect contact with the threat
- Can secure your location
- Exit leads to danger or you are unsure if the escape route is safe.



And as a last resort...

Fight

- You are in direct contact with the assailant
- Cannot evade or escape.
- Fear for loss of life or serious injury.





In an emergency, your teacher is trained to **ASSESS** the situation and determine the safest course of action.

Options provide students and staff with a range of strategies to keep people safe, and the permission to use them, depending on the situation.

-For instance, the type of the threat, time of day, and the location of students affect which option is best for each unique situation.

-The premise of options-based drills is to allow participants to make independent decisions including when and whether to **Run, Hide**(Lockdown), or as a last resort, **Fight** the attack of an assailant.



While the drill may often take place while you are in a classroom, sometimes the safest course of action in an emergency is to leave the building, such as a cafeteria, or to get off of campus if you are out in a courtyard or PE Field.



Run



While evacuation is obvious in a situation like a **fire**, it can also be true if there is a dangerous person inside the school.

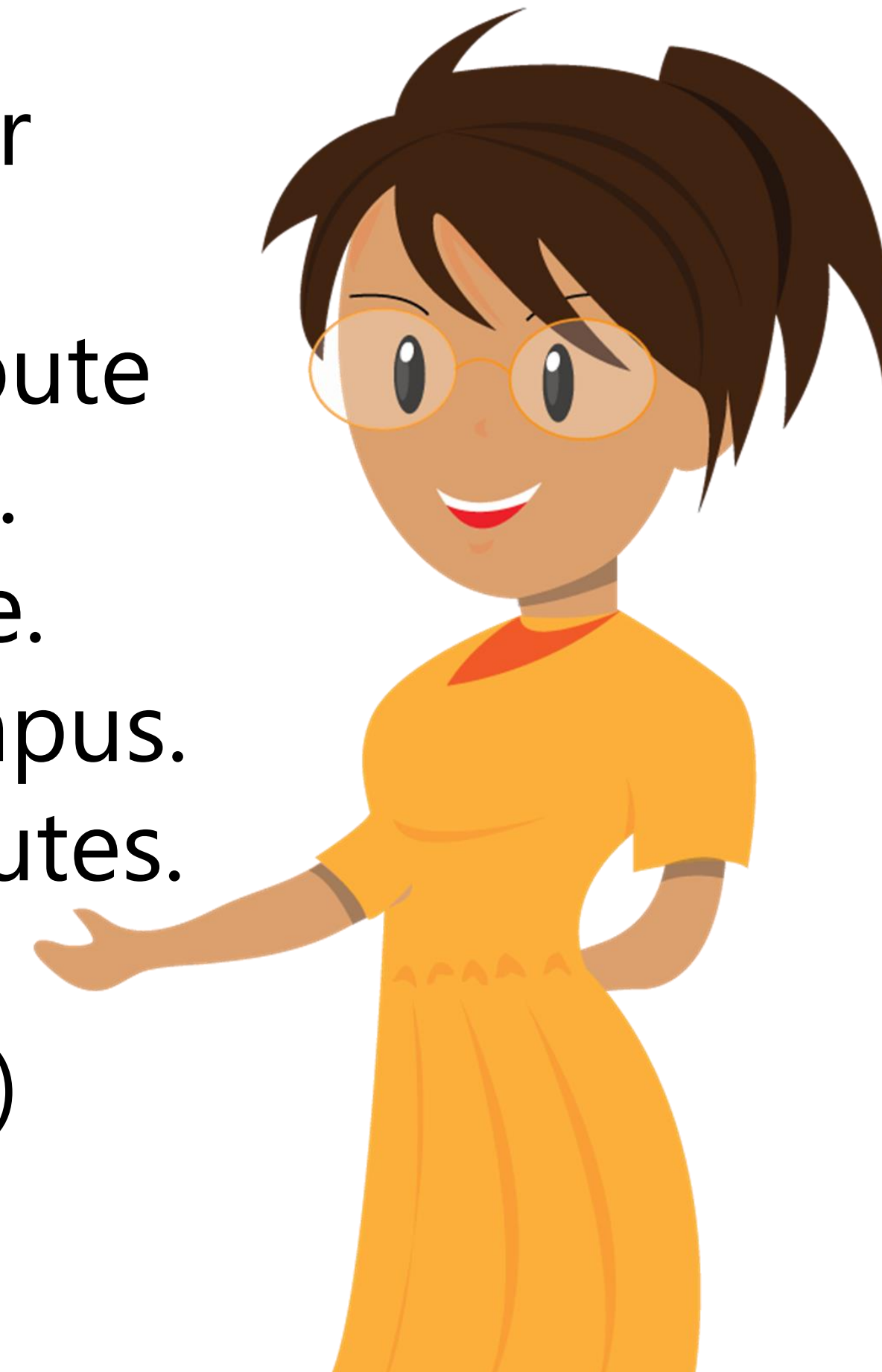


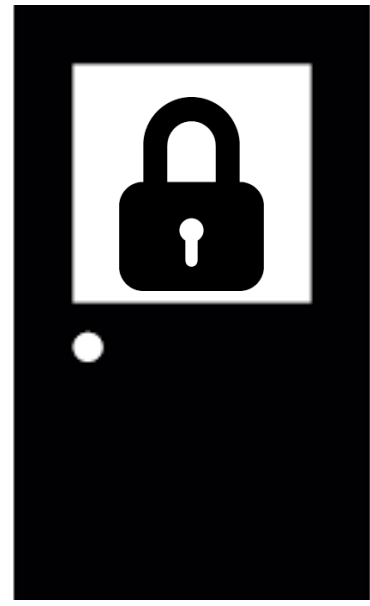
Run



Basic instructions that your teacher will ask you to follow while you practice the Run option:

- Teacher will discuss with students where the safe places are near campus in case any student gets separated from the class.
- The teacher, will direct you (the students) to follow an escape route which will get them safely away from the danger and off campus.
- During the drill:** The teacher, and students will **WALK** the route.
- During the drill:** Stop at campus boundary, **DO NOT** leave campus.
- Make adjustments along route as needed or discuss alternate routes.
- Identify places to take cover along the way.
- Discuss calling 911 when safe. (DO NOT call 911 during the drill)



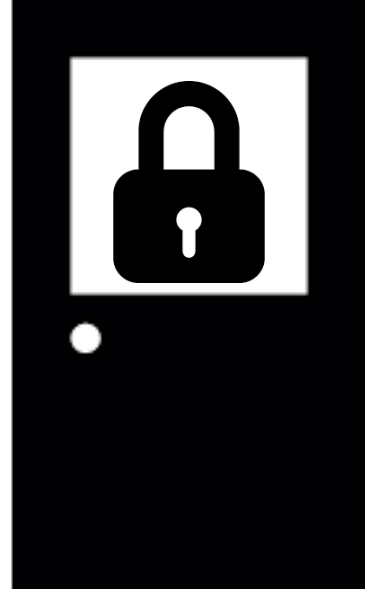


Hide (Lockdowns) typically take place while you are in classrooms or other types of rooms that are easily secured. During the drill, follow the teacher's instructions.

Basic instructions during a Hide (Lockdown) that your teacher will ask you to follow or assist with are:

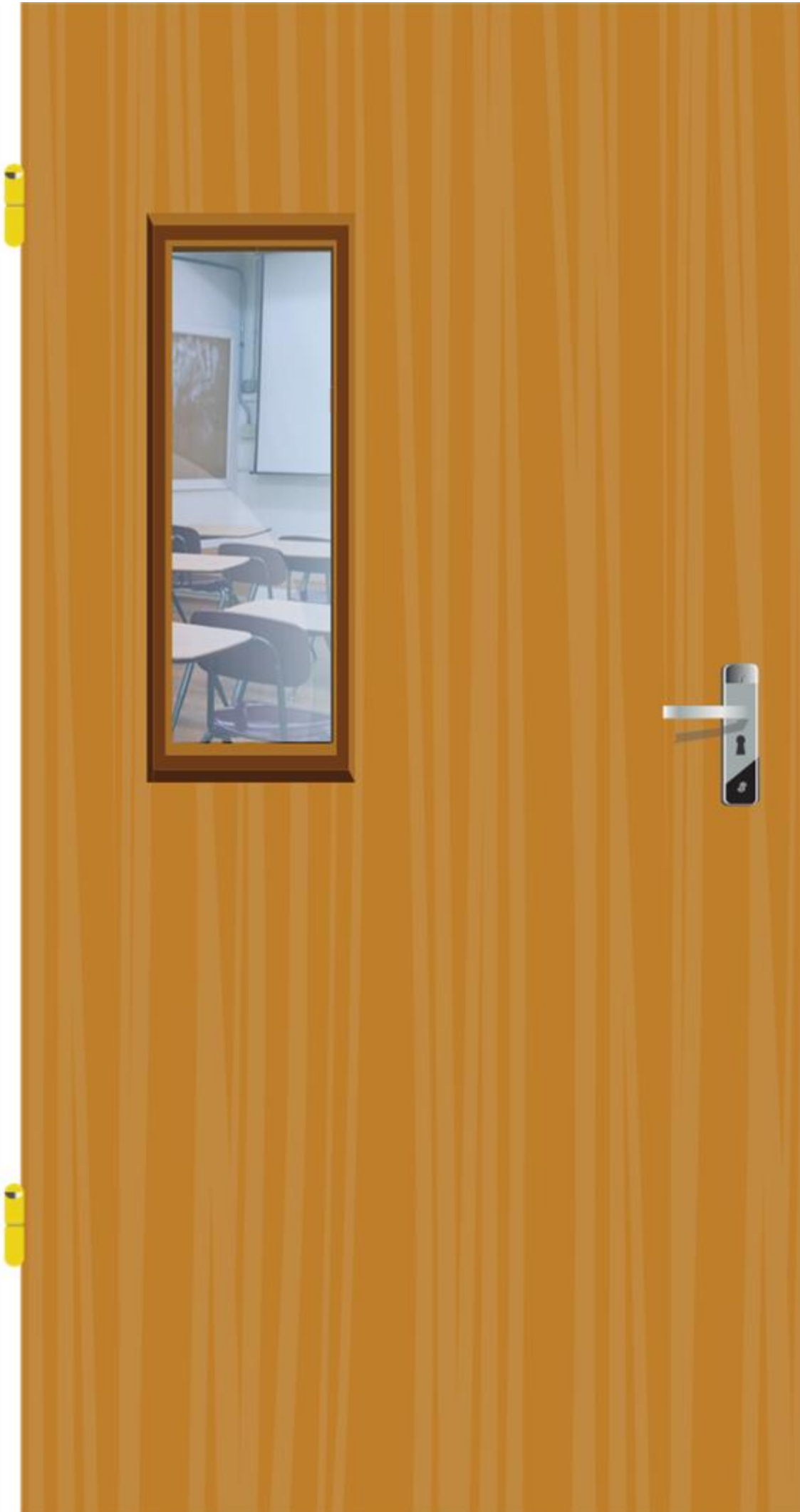
- Make sure the door is locked.
- Make sure that the window in the door is covered.
- Make sure the lights are turned off.
- Teachers and students will move into blind spots of the classroom. (These should be marked in each room)
- Anyone with a cell phone will turn off the sound.
- You, the teacher, and students will remain quiet.
- Do not open the door for anyone, even law enforcement.

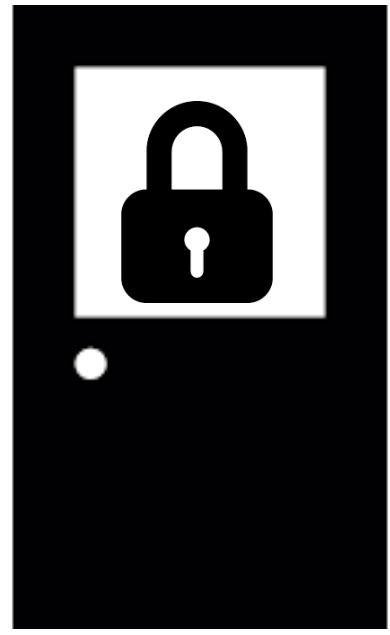




Another important step when **Hiding** (Locking down) is moving to areas inside the locked classroom where you cannot be seen from the hallway.

The teacher may cover the vision panel to help prevent someone from seeing in. This is good, but you should still move away from the door and windows and into the marked **"blind spots."**





During a **Hide** (Lockdown) drill the teacher may discuss ways to **secure** the classroom door beyond having it locked to prevent entry.

This can possibly include using desks to form a barricade or even tying off the door handle to make it harder to open the door.



***You do not need to build a barricade during the drill.**



Run

OR



Fight (Resist)

A teacher may direct you to **Run** or exit the building, but if you are alone, you do not need permission to **Run** to safety or **Fight (Resist)** someone that you believe is trying to harm you.



**As you are able to, alert others and call 911
or get to a *Safe Place*.**

If you do need to evacuate from the school and are not with a teacher, go to a designated ***Safe Place*** near your school.

If you are not sure where the safe places near your school are ask your teacher or your principal.

Your teacher and principal might call these
your school's ***Safe Places***.



Remember, school staff members and law enforcement officers always work to keep school safe and the probability of an active threat on campus is very unlikely.

We understand the reason we have to do these drills is scary, but the drill itself should not be.



If an ***Active Threat Drill*** causes you any concern or anxiety, please let a teacher, counselor or school administrator know.

Drills are practice that help us better respond to an emergency that we hope never happens.

You can help us keep that emergency from happening by reporting suspicious or concerning behaviors.

Our two anonymous reporting systems are:



If you ever see or hear something that causes you to worry about your ***immediate*** safety, or the safety of others, please say to a trusting adult right away.

What anyone can do to help prevent violence, is to:



If you see someone eating alone at lunch, say hello, introduce yourself, and ask them to join you.