

Active Shooter Drill

September 5, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Thursday, September 19, Liberty School will participate in our crucial annual active shooter drill. This drill, coordinated with the Adams County Sheriff's Department, is vital to our preparedness strategy. The drill will begin at 8:30 AM and probably last about an hour, with a debriefing meeting in the JH Gym (for elementary) and HS Gym (for JH and HS). During the drill, representatives from each classroom in grades 6-12th grade, under the guidance of their teacher, will decide whether to remain in a lockdown or escape from the building. This will depend on where the active shooter is located in the building. These students will meet school staff at the bus garage.

We are striving to make this drill as authentic as possible. Students will hear simulated reactions to seeing the active shooter, such as screams, to help them determine whether to stay put or flee. The response team will use this time to practice a few training tactics to learn how to respond to incidents in our school building, which we hope will never occur!

Once the drill and debriefing are over, the students will return to class. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 217-645-3433.

It will be necessary for students to understand that we are practicing, just like we do for fires and tornados. We are committed to ensuring the safety of our students, which is why we are required to hold this drill every year according to the Illinois School Code. We have found this approach to be highly effective. Please take a few minutes to talk with your child about this. The classroom teachers will do this, as well. Also, it is an excellent opportunity to speak to your child about a safe place in the community that they should run to so you can find them. This is **extremely important** in a real emergency.

Thank you in advance for cooperating to prepare our students and address their concerns. Please be prepared for them to tell you about the drill and ask questions. Remember, this drill is a crucial part of our safety strategy and we appreciate your support in ensuring the safety of our students.

Sincerely,

Kelle S. Bunch
Superintendent