

Active Threat Options for Staff

Run



OR

Hide



OR

Fight



Traditional Lockdown vs Options-Based Drills

Lockdown drills have been the standard approach for the school response to threatening situations for nearly two decades. Lockdowns involve locking the door, moving students out of sight, and requiring students to remain quiet within the room. Lockdowns should continue to be included in any an options-based approach to active assailant training. (Lockdown is the hide option)

Options-based drills provide students and staff with a range of alternative strategies to save lives, and the permission to use them, depending on the situation. For instance, the nature of the threat, time of day, and the location of students interact to affect the best options. The premise of options-based drills is to allow participants to make independent decisions including when and whether to Run/Evade, Hide/Lockdown, or as a last resort, Fight/Resist the attack of the assailant.

Go to or click the link below to watch this 29 second video to visualize the Options Based concept:



tinyurl.com/runhidefightintro



The primary purposes of an active assailant drill are to provide law enforcement and school leadership and staff the opportunity to practice skills and protocols and to identify and correct areas of weakness in knowledge, communication, coordination, and decision-making. The goal is to empower participants and save lives, and prepare professionals and staff for their roles and responsibilities.

The details of these options are intended to make sure that our staff understands the options available, these details are not intended to be shared with students, especially elementary students.

Children model their reactions on adult behavior, so effective drills should result in staff who inspire calm and confidence in students.