



## SAINT CLAIR AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Learn and Grow as a Community

Dear Saint Clair Area SD Family,

There's nothing more important than creating a safe and healthy learning environment for our students, teachers and staff. As part of our effort to realize this goal, I'm pleased to announce that we are implementing ALICE Training® schoolwide. Though the reality of an active shooter event on our campus is difficult to consider, we know it is crucial that our school community feel prepared to respond if such an incident were to occur. A key part of that preparation involves your support. You are the most important voice in your child's life, and we invite you to learn more about and share in the lifesaving lessons they will be learning.

ALICE Training® is an options-based, age- and ability-appropriate training program that will empower staff and students to survive an active shooter or other life-threatening emergency. Unlike the single-option lockdown response traditionally practiced in schools, ALICE Training® focuses on teaching proactive, multi-option response strategies that are evidence-based and trauma-informed. The ALICE approach is designed to scale both emotionally and physically to students at any grade level, helping to increase retention and decrease negative emotional outcomes.

### What Does ALICE Training® Teach?

**Alert:** A speedy response is critical to survival. Quickly recognizing signs of danger allows you to make the best survival decisions for the situation.

**Lockdown:** When evacuation is not an option, barricade entry points into the room and prepare for the next response strategy.

**Inform:** Communicate real-time information about the armed assailant with those in the immediate vicinity and first responders.

**Counter:** As a last resort, create noise, movement, distance and distraction to decrease the intruder's ability to cause harm.

**Evacuate:** When it is safe to do so, retreat to an area that is out of harm's way.

ALICE Training® was developed to empower individuals of all ages and abilities to participate in their own survival if they become unwilling participants in an act of violence. Though we take every precaution to ensure such an event is never experienced on our campus, we know there is value in preparing our community to respond effectively if it is.

For more information on ALICE Training®, you are invited to view the ALICE for Families and Communities course at <https://nav360.link/alice-360>. Thank you for your continued assistance in making our school community as safe as possible and one in which our students can reach their full potential.