



Valley Grove School District

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KEVIN M. BRIGGS Superintendent

August 29, 2018

Dear Parents & Guardians:

As you all know, school safety and security has been the center of discussions around the county, state, and nation in recent months. Schools across the country are evaluating procedures and practices in place for violent events related to violent or armed intruders.

In an effort to make sure our schools are using an updated and research based program in these circumstances, the Valley Grove School District has adopted the **ALICE** program. Schools are realizing that the traditional "lockdown" doesn't fit every situation or scenario that happens related to violent intruders. The **ALICE** program is designed to train our school community to evaluate the situation and make the best decisions they can with the information that is available. Last spring, the Valley Grove School District sent two of our administrators with one of our Sugarcreek Borough Police officers to a two day training to certify them in providing **ALICE** training to our schools.

During our August 21, 2018, in-service day, we began training our teachers and aides on the **ALICE** principles. Moving forward, we will be working in building level teams to update our Critical Incident Plans to reflect our new training and understanding of best practice. A parent night will be scheduled this fall to explain the program prior to any training with students. Students will receive age appropriate training and education related to the practices that the district will be using during any such violent event.


The safety and security of students is our highest priority, and we will continue to evaluate all aspects of school safety. If you would like more information on the **ALICE** program, you can visit the program website at <https://www.alicetraining.com/>

Our local **ALICE** training team includes:

- Kelly Hart, Mid-Level Principal
- Jacob Saullo, Elementary Principal
- Lt. Ryan Ashbaugh, Sugarcreek Borough Police

Please feel free to contact us with any questions as we move through the process. More information will be sent home regarding any scheduled parent nights or trainings.

Thank you,


Kevin M. Briggs
Superintendent

Mission Statement

The mission of the Valley Grove School District in partnership with the community is to provide the opportunity for each student to obtain a comprehensive and quality education.

AN EQUAL RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITY AGENCY