



**WESTON**  
HIGH SCHOOL

444 WELLESLEY STREET  
WESTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02493-2636

TEL 781-786-5800  
FAX 781-786-5829

ANTHONY A. PARKER  
PRINCIPAL  
parkera@weston.org

January 19, 2018

Dear Parents & Guardians:

The safety and security of our students is of the utmost importance. To that end, we continuously review our policies and practices to ensure that recent research and data support the policies we employ. The US Department of Education, International Association of Chiefs of Police, FEMA and the FBI all recommend having active plans that include decision making and options rather than school lockdowns, in the unlikely event of a school intruder.

The high school and middle school have adopted **ALICE**, a nationally recognized program. **ALICE** is a proactive set of responses to an active school intruder event which empowers individuals to utilize human action. **ALICE** stands for:

**Alert** – Get the word out! Use clear, concise language to convey the type and location of the event.

**Lockdown** – Good starting point. We will continue to lockdown students in a secure area, however, we will include barricading the area for additional security.

**Inform** – Communication keeps the intruder off balance and allows for good decision-making.

**Counter** – Apply skills to distract, confuse and gain control.

**Evacuate** – As soon as it is safe to do so, evacuating.

Several Weston educators from the middle and high school have attended trainings regarding ALICE. These educators, along with the Weston Police Department, conducted two trainings with the high School faculty and staff in the Spring of 2016 and the Spring of 2017.

The first phase of high school student training occurred in March 2017 with a follow-up in December 2017. Students viewed an eight-minute student-made video that enacts the **ALICE** protocols followed by preparedness discussions with each of their classroom teachers.

The second phase of student training will take place on Thursday, January 25, 2018. The training will occur between 12:00 P.M.-1:55 P.M., during which time the building will be locked. The training will allow for numerous debriefing conversations with adults including Weston police officers. All classes will be on an abbreviated schedule to accommodate this training. Click here for more information [Student ALICE Training](#).

Our goal is to ensure that, in the event of a school violence or intruder incident, students and teachers have all the tools to react per the information they have available at that time.

Best,

Anthony Parker  
Principal