



216 North Hill Street • South Bend, IN 46617 • 574-234-0451 • www.stjosephgradeschool.com

January 11, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In our continued efforts to maintain safety in our schools, we will be providing lessons to students that involve a protocol for responding during an emergency situation. The instruction that students will be receiving will focus on options (Run, Hide, Fight) that students and teachers have in the event of an active shooter emergency. The Run, Hide, Fight protocol is recommended by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Justice, the International Chiefs of Police, the Indiana State Police, and others. Run, Hide, Fight protocol will be modified for students based on age and will be presented in an age appropriate manner. Our teachers have established plans for their particular grade. Parents will be informed on the date of the presentation to students to support at home. You will be receiving a letter from your student's teacher with this information soon. We will also host an informational meeting on Thursday, January 19, at 5:30 PM in the Library to answer questions. These lessons will take place over the course of the remainder of the school year.

In addition to the Run, Hide, Fight protocol, students will be learning about the Standard Response Protocol (SRP). This is a national system of common vocabulary, which is used in the event of an emergency. The SRP is used in all schools in the Diocese of Ft. Wayne-South Bend.

Preparing our students for real and present dangers is basic, fundamental education. Different times, different circumstances, and different dangers require that we prepare students in different ways. Nobody wants to contemplate something bad happening in our schools, but through responsible planning and training, we are able to respond to a crisis in order to better protect ourselves, and those around us.

Safer classrooms and work environments can only happen if we take action. Safety depends on our ability, our determination, and our commitment to make emergency preparedness a top priority. We encourage you to engage in discussions with your child about school and community safety in an effort to be prepared to act in the event of an emergency.

More information regarding the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) can be found on the school website. Thank you for supporting our safety initiatives.

Sincerely,

George Azar
Principal



2011 National Blue Ribbon School

*Educating hearts and minds in the
Holy Cross tradition since 1854*



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