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January 24, 2020

Dear Parents,

Each year Summit reviews, trains and drills for school safety from fire drills to lockdown school emergency plans. As you may know, Summit implemented the ALICE procedures for a school lockdown scenario and we are preparing to review the training for students new week.

At Summit, we take our role of providing a safe and secure environment for all students and employees very seriously and we have been pro-active in implementing these security measures. Although these are unlikely scenarios, it is a topic that causes great concern. We are also aware of the sensitivity of this subject regarding the students, so we take a step by step approach when introducing and reviewing the topic. I welcome any feedback you have to this letter.

The documents that you need to review are posted to the right, and include a permission slip for you to return to us for the field trip walk through to the unification point that is off campus and the videos that will be shown in case you want to review this weekend. Today teachers are letting the students know that we will be going over emergency procedures next week so they may have questions for you over the weekend.

The following is our plan for next week:

Monday the students will view the appropriate video for their age group, followed by group discussions. The videos were vetted through Summit clinical department for appropriateness. We have worked directly with the Worcester Police Department and in the past, they have attended the video presentation here at the school. We have invited them again this year although not confirmed as of yet.

Tuesday Summit staff will discuss our school protocols and the students will go on a walking field trip to the unification point in case of emergency exit from campus. Walk through will be led by all teachers.

Wednesday through Friday, we will introduce all the training from securing the classrooms, to proper evacuation, to confronting a threat.

From every perspective, our students must feel safe and secure at school. With your help and support, we can work together to ensure students understand this safety plan and their role. Thank you and feel free to contact me at my cell below

Warm regards,

Daniel DiMezza
Executive Director
Summit Academy