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## CARVER MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL

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October 17, 2016

Dear Parents & Guardians:

Carver Middle High School is committed to providing the safest possible environment for its students. Over the years, we have taken great steps in the matter of securing our school (locking exterior doors, installing monitored entry systems, and installing security cameras.) But, what if a violent intruder enters our building?

Schools across the country have answered this question with a method we call "Lockdown." In the event an unauthorized person enters the school buildings or grounds, a lockdown alert is given and students and staff are instructed to lock their classroom doors, turn off the lights, and hide in a corner of the classroom while remaining quiet. This is the procedure that we have followed for numerous years, however we now know that we must provide students and staff with more options in case they are confronted with an armed intruder.

Carver Public Schools has enhanced traditional lockdown with procedures that we, as well as experts across the country, believe will increase the chance of survival during a violent intruder incident. The enhancements we will teach our staff and students are known as **ALICE**.

What does **ALICE** mean?

Alert: We will get the word out using clear concise language and describe the location of the event.

Lockdown: Still a good starting point. We will continue to lock down students in secure areas by using methods such as barricading.

Inform: Keeping the staff and students informed continually allows for good decision making.

Counter: If necessary distract, confuse, and gain control.

Evacuate: Reduce the number of potential targets for the shooter.

To be clear, in **NO WAY** are we asking our students or staff to make any attempt to subdue an armed gunman outside of their secured area. However, we will provide them with options that if faced with a life or death situation, can be applied to greatly enhance their chance of survival. These options include escaping, barricading the door, and protecting oneself by any means necessary should an armed intruder enter the room.

On Wednesday, October 26, 2016 from 6:30pm-8:30pm, Carver Middle High School staff, along with local law enforcement, will be conducting an ALICE presentation as well as a voluntary demonstration for parents and guardians. The presentation will take place in the auditorium followed by demonstrations using numerous classrooms. All Carver Middle High School students will receive a similar training in the following weeks.

There will be free childcare offered by the Carver Middle High School National Honor Society. Children will not be permitted to sit in during the presentation or take part in the demonstration.

We look forward to your attendance on October 26, 2016. If you have any questions about the ALICE program, please contact myself or the main office staff at 508-866-6130.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Souza', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark Souza

Assistant Principal