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Oct. 12, 2018

Lake County Schools Parents:

Safety is our district's No. 1 priority. Because of that commitment, our Safety and Security department is teaming up with schools across the county to provide new training to further ensure student safety.

For years, Florida Statutes have required schools to incorporate fire and tornado drills into the school day. Now, that requirement also includes active shooter drills. The goal is the same: to help students and staff practice the appropriate responses during an emergency.

Active shooter drills will be held at least twice a year at every Lake public school. Starting this month, in collaboration with the Lake County Sheriff's Office, we will begin teaching students with age-appropriate materials how to safely respond in an active shooter emergency. The drills will begin shortly after the training. I will attend those drills along with local law enforcement.

As with other drills, the dates will not be announced in advance. However, principals will send home a letter after a drill has taken place so you can continue the safety discussion at home.

Our School Board will review training materials for each age group at a workshop at 9:30 a.m. on Oct. 17 at the district office, 201 W. Burleigh Blvd., Tavares. The public is invited to attend. If you can't attend the workshop, you may choose to watch in real time through livestreaming at <https://www.youtube.com/user/LakeSchools>, or you may view the video recording that will be posted on the district website by Friday, Oct. 19.

We believe attending the meeting or watching the video will help answer your questions and alleviate many of your concerns about the age appropriateness of the training. If, after watching, you have additional questions, please send them to us at SchoolSafety@lake.k12.fl.us.

In the meantime, please talk to your children about school safety drills and the importance of taking them seriously. We hope we never encounter an active shooter on any of our campuses, but if we do, we want our students and staff to remain safe. Thank you for working with us.

Sincerely,

Jimmer Roy
District Safety and Security Specialist