

Dear Rural Dell Families

April 6, 2018

I am reaching out to share additional information regarding yesterday's LockOut. You'll recall from our letter home to families yesterday afternoon that Clackamas County Sheriff's Office had alerted us to police activity nearby (but well away from the school) at approximately 1:20 pm. Though no students or staff were in harm's way, we erred on the side of caution and initiated a Lock Out.

When facing any potential emergency, we follow a program called the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) - a nationally recognized approach to managing emergency situations, and one we use in Oregon. It is crisis-proven, familiar to Law Enforcement, and the "gold standard" in response plans. Some families have asked me about the procedure during a lockout. On page two you will find a description of the LockOut Protocol.

I've also received a number of questions about why the school didn't reach out to families during the LockOut. We recognize that many families may feel the need to call or head to the building to personally check on their students, and as a parent, I get that. That said, arriving at the scene when Emergency Responders are trying to secure the area, and working to keep others safe (while also responding to threatening circumstances) puts both Responders and families in harm's way. As you can imagine, having anxious parents at the doors, when protocol dictates that doors remained locked - no one in or out, or calling and unable to get through, could lead to real anxiety, and takes attention away from the staff's primary mission of keeping students safe, calm and productively focused (for what may be an extended period of time.)

To the questions about 'why more information isn't given to families (via backpack notes) about the details of the event.' I have to respond that during a LockOut, we're not actively monitoring social media or the news. Our full attention is on keeping kids and adults safe and focused on learning, on coordinating with Emergency Responders and following their directives, and will not be focused on passing along event information (which is often speculation, at best.) We ask for your trust that we are attending fully to the needs of students.

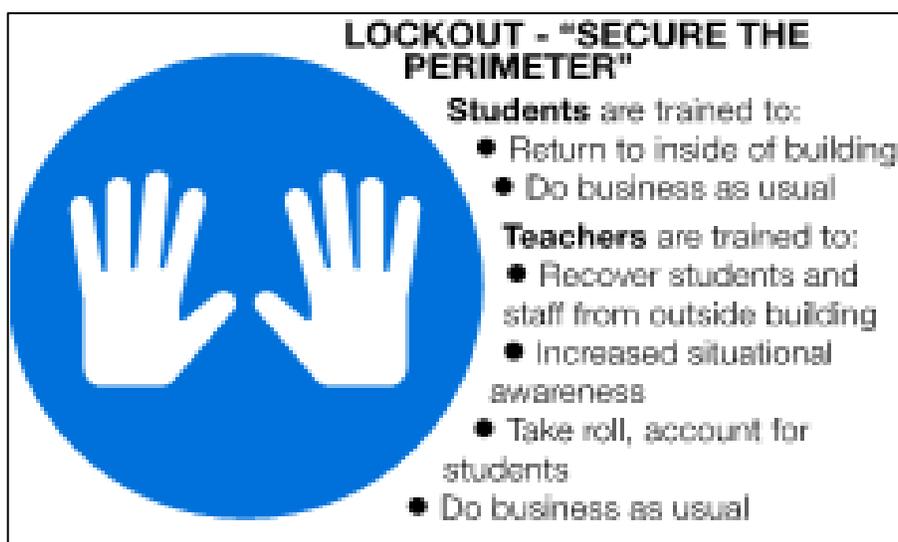
I sincerely apologize for any apprehension you might have felt hearing afterward what happened – and am hoping that a clearer understanding of the Protocols we follow may ease that anxiety a bit. I invite you to both review the SRP Overview attached, and to attend **the Rural Dell Parent Teacher Club Meeting on April 10th, (3:45pm in the RD Library) where a significant portion of the Agenda will be devoted to SRP procedures, with the opportunity to ask clarifying questions and share concerns.**

Respectfully yours,

Larry and the RD Staff

Standard Response Protocol for LockOut

LOCKOUT (Responding to threat or danger outside the building)



General description: Staff locks perimeter doors (only one door is actually unlocked during school time anyway), but school continues. Office will announce the Lockout, and explain any adjustments to regular scheduled activities. For example: "no classes or staff go outside"; or "2nd period will extend until you hear the bell; or "Recess will be postponed until further notice".

Directive: "LOCKOUT. Secure the Perimeter. LOCKOUT. Secure the Perimeter."

Students are to:

- Return to inside of building if outside.
- Follow any special instructions from the Office's announcements.
- Otherwise, continue to do business as usual during the period of Lockout.