



DISTRICT OFFICES
Tom Flanagan, Superintendent
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Dear BSD Families,

As part of our continued work to keep schools safe, schools will practice a variety of emergency drills this year. The drills are required by the state of Vermont.

Throughout the year, all schools will be practicing:

- Situational awareness discussions which involve our options-based response ([Run, Hide, Fight](#)) to an active threat.
- Fire and evacuation drills where the whole community exits the school.
- Relocation drills, where everyone leaves the building and moves to an established relocation space.

Options-based responses to active threats are designed to empower staff and students with options during an active threat. Our first options-based drill will be a discussion on the week of September 14. These conversations will be both grade- and age-appropriate. The practice will begin with an intercom announcement and move into a discussion about how to stay safe. The discussions are designed to be as low-stress as possible for both adults and students. We believe that having teachers review this information is the most appropriate way to introduce this information to students.

BSD is using a districtwide approach to drills by practicing them during the same week at every school. A copy of the [District Drill Schedule](#) is linked here.

School violence is not something anyone wants to think about, but we must do our best to be prepared for any emergency or potentially unsafe situation. Our District's top priority is always to keep our students and staff safe. Practicing these drills helps us be ready to recall what we have learned, and be prepared to act as rehearsed, even in a stressful situation. Thank you for your support in this effort.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Flanagan