

**PARADIGM SCHOOLS**  
Safety Week Thursday Script  
**ACTIVE SHOOTER: AVOID, DENY, DEFEND**

In a lockdown scenario where a threatening intruder or active shooter has entered the school:

In such a case we will follow the Avoid, Deny, Defend procedures.

First, you do your best to **AVOID** the threat.

Second, if you are not able to avoid the situation then you **DENY** access to our location.

Third, you prepare to **DEFEND** yourself. I will now explain more specifically what each one of those processes looks like at Paradigm.

**First: AVOID**

If you become aware of a treat in the building, immediately look to move away from the threat.

If you are in class on the stage, in the gym or in the kitchen your immediate response is to evacuate the building through one of the many exits and run to the LDS church which is north east of the school on 11400 South. That is our reunification site. Mentors will then contact your parents and your reunification process will begin.

All other classes will move to the deny phase.

**Second: DENY**

In the deny phase you will shut and secure your door and turn off the light. Barricade your door to prevent anyone from coming in an unlocked door. Look for items that are large and heavy to put against the door. In the interest of expediting the drill we will not practice this tomorrow. But, look around the room for items that may help to barricade the entrances to your classroom.

As soon as you have denied access to your location begin looking for an alternate exit. Windows can be alternate exits, if they are broken. We will NOT practice breaking windows during the drill.

**Third: DEFEND**

Once you have denied access and are unable to evacuate, prepare to defend yourself. Your life is important and you have a right to defend yourself. Find something that is heavy and or sharp, move out of the view of any windows, turn off your cell phone and

wait quietly. In a quite space cell phone vibrations are audible so it is safer to not have them make any sound or vibration at all. South Jordan Police has told us that they expect the first law enforcement officer to respond within 4 minutes. As soon as an officer has arrived he or she will enter the building and engage the intruder.

### **Special Circumstances**

If you are in the bathroom stand on the toilet, lock the stall door, and be quiet. Make sure your phone is on silent, including alarms, so as not to draw attention to your location.

If you are in the library or office immediately and quickly follow the instructions of the mentors in those areas.

If you are in the hall evacuate through the nearest safe exit and run to the LDS church on 11400 South. (Run towards Harmons, cross the street when the pedestrian signal indicates it is safe, turn right which is down the hill, and proceed to the first LDS church. It will be on your left.)

### **Emergency Response**

The police will respond and quickly subdue/neutralize the threat and the intruder will be removed from the premises. Anyone injured will be cared for by emergency medical personnel and evacuated to hospitals **before** any classrooms are released to the reunification site. The process of clearing and cleaning up will take hours and we will be restricted to our classrooms for an extended period of time.

### **The DRILL:**

When the drill begins classes in the gym, on the stage, or in the kitchen will immediately evacuate to the reunification site. Arrangements have been made so the reunification building will be open. Proceed to the reunification site and enter the building through the south doors, which face 11400 South.

When it is time for scholars to be moved to the reunification site an announcement will be made by one of the administrators or office staff and classrooms will be released one at a time. Law enforcement will visit room by room to clear the building and inform you that it is safe to evacuate. Scholars will be asked to stand against one wall. Two or three scholars could be pulled aside and questioned to verify that everyone in the room is familiar and supposed to be there which is part of their protocol in these types of situations. This will happen during our drill.

Once officers have determined that individuals in the room are safe, we will all be asked to place our hands on our head and in a real situation we will all be physically searched as we leave the classroom. We will practice walking out of the school tomorrow with our hands on our head. We will not practice being searched.

Because there will be no physical search, tomorrow's evacuation will not take as long as it would in a true emergency situation. After exiting the building we will all walk to the reunification site.

During a true emergency scholars need to remain with their mentors, even if they see their parents. No matter what time of day. In an emergency situation you must be released to a parent, legal guardian or emergency contact through the process Paradigm has established. We understand that by the time we evacuate the building you will want to go home, and your parents will be anxious to reunite with you, but our procedure has been established to ensure your safety and we hope you will honor the process, even in an emergency.

Tomorrow we have created an opportunity for your parents to experience the reunification process in a non-emergency setting so that in an emergency they will be familiar with our procedures. Please remain with your mentor tomorrow until the reunification process has been correctly completed. While at the reunification location please be respectful of the building we are using for our reunification site. We are grateful for the opportunity to use it for this practice as well as if there was a true emergency.

As classes arrive at the building, roll will be taken as we do in all our drills, and the accountability team will compile a list of scholars who are missing. (This list will be given to the administration to be compared with the list of scholars, if any, who were transported for medical treatment.) Scholars will then be escorted into the gym, at the church, where they will be separated into alphabetical groups based on their last name. This is to expedite the reunification process.

Mentors, once your scholars are in the gym and supervised by another mentor please proceed to your assigned reunification responsibility.

Parents, legal guardians or emergency contacts will arrive through the East driveway and will be directed where to park. After parking they will be met by a mentor who will ask them to fill out a paper with their name on the top. The mentor will then check their identification to make sure they are the person named as the driver. A runner will then take the paper in to the building where a mentor or staff member will verify that

they are named as someone who can legally check you out of school. Please let your parents know that they need to send a permission note with you to school tomorrow if you plan to go home with anyone other than your parent or the emergency contacts we have on file.

The runner will then come into the area where you are waiting, collect all scholars on the list and will escort you to the vehicle. The driver will sign the paper indicating that they have received the scholars listed on the paper, return the paper to the runner, load up the vehicle and exit the parking lot on the West side of the building. Please stay with your escort until the process is complete.

If an emergency occurs during lunch or passing period find the nearest classroom or safe exit. IF you enter a classroom secure the room. If you exit the building run and go to the reunification site.