

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: April 2, 2018

To: Principals, Division and Department Heads and Child Development Center Administrators

Subject: **SAFETY PROTOCOL CHANGES:**
Options Based Response Tactics and Training

Department and/or Persons Concerned: Site Administrators

Due Date: April 6, 2018

Reference: Options Based Response

Action Requested: Each Site to Identify a Trainer by April 6, 2018

Brief Explanation: The District is transitioning to an Options Based Response in response to school threats and/or violent incidents—especially active shooter events. Each site (including support sites and departments) shall identify a team member to attend an 8-hour train-the-trainer’s course.

On Tuesday, March 13, 2018, our Board of Education voted unanimously to adopt Options Based Response to campus violence. This requires all district employees to attend a two-hour course in Options Based Response.

Background:

Following the 1999 tragedy at Columbine High School, school districts across the country have relied on the use of lockdown as a single-option strategy in response to armed attacks on campus. However, with the increasing frequency of such attacks, law enforcement continues to evaluate, refine, and adopt response tactics.

In 2008, the federal government created the Run/Hide/Fight for violence in the workplace and other venues. However, the complexities of campus safety (specifically a teacher’s responsibilities to a classroom full of children), makes it problematic to implement Run/Hide/Fight protocols in a K-12 environment.

In 2014, the San Diego County Office of Education developed a work-group to examine the feasibility of adopting an Options Based Response for all 42 K-12 districts throughout our county.

Options Based Response received a final endorsement from the County Office of Education and San Diego Police Chiefs’ and Sheriff’s Association in 2016.

Required Action:

Each principal and department head must identify an administrator (or other interested team member) to attend an 8-hour train-the-trainer course. The County Office of Education is providing two training dates in April, at no cost to our district (tentatively set for April 24th and April 26th). Site trainers will then return and hold a two-hour Options Based Response training for all staff members at the particular school site for support department (e.g., Food Service, PPO, Transportation, FPC, etc.)

No later than April 6th, each principal and/or department head must identify a site trainer, and email name/contact information to School Police Captain Joe Florentino (jflorentino@sandi.net).

We believe Options Based Response will greatly enhance our district's ability to protect students and staff. Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

Michael Marquez
Chief of Police

APPROVED:



Drew Rowlands
Chief Operations Officer