



STEEL CENTER

for CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

565 N. LEWIS RUN ROAD
JEFFERSON HILLS, PA 15025
PHONE: 412-469-3200
FAX: 412-469-3209
www.steelcentertech.com

GENERAL SAFETY & SECURITY INFORMATION: 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

August 1, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The safety and security of students and staff is of highest priority at Steel Center. In order to maintain a safe and secure learning environment, Steel Center conducts emergency drills in alignment with our emergency procedures and response protocols in accordance with Act 44 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code. The purpose of this letter is to provide you general information about Steel Center's safety and security program and measures taken to prepare students and staff for emergencies.

Steel Center conducts three (3) types of emergency drills over the course of each school year: ALICE, fire, and severe weather. Drills occur each month in accordance with the Public School Code and are preceded by education, which is provided by school personnel. Six (6) fire drills, three (3) ALICE drills, and one (1) severe weather drill will take place before year's end. Note the following descriptions:

ALICE (Safety) Drills: ALICE is an acronym, which stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate. It provides an array of response options during extreme emergencies, including situations involving active shooters. Steel Center utilizes ALICE for heightening school safety and minimizing loss of life amid extreme emergencies. All students and staff are required to use it when necessary. Training and disclosure regarding ALICE happens periodically to ensure that all students and staff understand it and know how to use it. ALICE drills may be based on specific themes (i.e., lockdown and evacuate) or open scenarios. Families are notified of ALICE (safety) drills prior to them occurring.

Fire Drills: Pennsylvania code mandates that schools conduct fire drills and other types of emergency drills (i.e., ALICE drills) on a monthly basis. Fire drills promote preparedness for fires and other potentially dangerous situations including, but not limited to active shooters, breaches in homeland security, manmade disasters, natural disasters, and terrorism.

Severe Weather (Tornado) Drills: Severe weather drills ensure that students and staff know how to protect themselves in the event of life-threatening severe weather, the Steel Center conducts severe weather (or tornado) drills the spring months. This type of drill requires students and staff to relocate to safe zones in the school and take cover.

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In addition to drills and instruction on emergency preparedness, Steel Center is committed to creating and sustaining a comprehensive, coordinated effort to improve the overall safety. To support this objective, the school in compliance with Act 44 of the Pennsylvania Code utilizes **Safe2Say Something (SS2S)**. The comprehensive SS2S program educates students and other school stakeholders on how to:

- Recognize the signs and signals of at-risk behaviors—especially within social media;
- Take every sign and signal seriously;
- Act quickly to get help by talking to a trusted adult;
- Report critical information anonymously through the S2SS Office of the Attorney General 24/7 Crisis Center, mobile app, or website;
- Respond to and manage the submitted tip via a school-based multi-disciplinary educator and administrator teams;
- Sustain the curriculum and awareness via student clubs, in-school activities and call-to-action weeks.

Steel Center is committed to the safety and security of its students and staff. If you have any questions regarding anything outlined in this letter, please feel free to contact me at the school: 412.469.3200, ext. 6745 or rwhite@steelcentertech.com.

Yours in Education,

Robin White

Robin White
Assistant Director: Principal
School Safety and Security Coordinator