

Keeping Kids Safe

Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU), in collaboration with the 18 school districts, two career and technology centers, and I-Lead Charter School are coordinating efforts to implement a countywide, common Standard Response Protocol (SRP) that will guide the decision-making and actions of teachers and school personnel at the outbreak of a crisis. SRP is being implemented in Berks County schools in coordination with local emergency first responders and mental health professionals.

As part of the SRP and in accordance with the Department of Homeland Security, BCIU has developed curriculum to teach in our schools in case of an active shooter event.

If you ever find yourself in the middle of an active shooter event, your survival may depend on whether or not you have a plan. The plan does not have to be complicated. There are three things you could do that could make a difference:

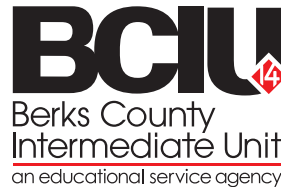


QUESTIONS?

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Run, Hide, Fight—DISCLAIMER: An individual must use their discretion during an active shooter event as to whether they will choose to run, hide, or fight.



"Run. Hide. Fight.: Surviving an Active Shooter Event" is a Department of Homeland Security Grant Funded Project of the Regional Catastrophic Planning Initiative produced by the City of Houston Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security. Ready Houston, www.readyhouston.tx.gov.



Run, Hide, Fight—is a set of responses to an Active Shooter that is endorsed by the Department of Homeland Security and Pennsylvania State Police.

Run, Hide, Fight are three actions to help protect students and school personnel to survive the situation.



RUN

CAN YOU SAFELY ESCAPE?

RUN.

When an active shooter is in your vicinity:

- First and foremost, if you can get out, do so.
- Always try and escape or evacuate, even when others insist on staying.
- Encourage others to leave with you, but don't let them slow you down with indecision.
- Remember what's important: you, not your stuff. Leave your belongings behind, and try to find a way to get out safely.
- Trying to get yourself out of harm's way needs to be your number one priority.
- Once you are out of the line of fire, try to prevent others from walking into the danger zone and call 9-1-1.

HIDE

IS THERE A GOOD PLACE TO HIDE?

HIDE.

If an evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide.

- Lock and/or blockade the door.
- Silence your cell phone.
- Hide behind large objects.
- Remain very quiet.

Your hiding place should:

- Be out of the shooter's view.
- Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction.
- Not trap or restrict your options for movement.

FIGHT

HOW WILL YOU PROTECT YOURSELF AND THOSE AROUND YOU?

FIGHT.

FIGHT. As a last resort, and only if your life is in danger:

- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Act with physical aggression.
- Improvise weapons.
- Commit to your actions.

Try to be aware of your environment. Always have an exit plan.

Know that in an incident like this, victims are generally chosen randomly. The event is unpredictable and may evolve quickly.

The first responders on the scene are not there to evacuate or tend to the injured. They are well-trained, and are there to stop the shooter.

When law enforcement arrives:

- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Keep your hands visible at all times.
- Avoid pointing or yelling.
- Know that help for the injured is on its way.