

## Press Release Richland County Community Unit School District #1

## January 6, 2020

## RICHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT DESIGNATED ALICE CERTIFIED ORGANIZATION

The Richland County Community Unit School District #1 was recently designated as an ALICE Certified Organization by the ALICE Training Institute. ALICE, which stands for Alert, Lock-down, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate, is the top-rated protocol to prepare for and deal with an active intruder event. Endorsed by the US Department of Education, the Illinois State Board of Education, Homeland Security, and others, ALICE provides an options-based strategy to deal with an active intruder event that has many possible scenarios.

"The safety of students and staff is a top priority of this school district," stated Superintendent of Schools Chris Simpson. "While there is no amount of planning that can prepare a school for every possible scenario, ALICE provides our staff with the tools to respond to a violent situation based on the best options available at that time."

ALICE training is a three-year process that requires a combination of e-learning modules on school safety combined with drills that include staff and students. The Richland County School District is entering into its second year of training.