

ACTIVE THREAT RESPONSE TRAINING EXERCISE

August 15, 2019

Acting on the recommendations of the School Safety Taskforce, Chesapeake Public Schools has partnered with the Chesapeake Police and Fire Departments to conduct a training exercise that will provide school employees with hands-on experience in reacting to an active threat situation. This citywide event will be held at Hickory High School in August.



What is an Active Threat Response (ATR) Training Exercise?

An ATR Training Exercise is a large-scale, coordinated event that presents an active threat scenario that requires participants to recognize the threat and respond appropriately, both during and after the incident. To ensure the safety of students and staff, the exercise will allow all participating entities to put into practice their established protocols and procedures for dealing with potential threats.

What training will participants receive?

To prepare for the exercise, four training sessions are being held during the 2018-2019 school year:

- Active Threat Response - providing participants an opportunity to evaluate current response plans and identify areas for improvement.
- Lockdown Procedures - incorporating additional protocols to complement existing policies and procedures.
- Tactical First Aid - providing hands-on training to teach non-medical personnel critical life-saving skills.
- Reunification - discussing the joint response needed to reunify students and staff with family members after a large-scale incident.

Who will participate in the exercise?

The training sessions are mandatory for all school administrators, as well as the faculty and staff of the school hosting the exercise in August. Any additional administrators wishing to participate in the exercise were required to attend all training sessions. While no students will participate in the exercise on August 15, 2019, they will benefit from the knowledge and training gained through the implementation of the exercise.

What are the goals of the exercise?

- Establishing a strong partnership and ongoing communication between key stakeholders within the City of Chesapeake.
- Conducting a strategic review of existing policies and procedures designed to protect life, including strengthening lockdown procedures.
- Ensuring effective guidance in the joint response.
- Identifying roles and responsibilities of all agencies during active threats and ensuring de-confliction of joint efforts.
- Providing tactical first aid training.
- Simulating an active threat scenario.