



## Brimfield, Ohio and Police Chief Oliver

*[Reprinted from Brimfield PD Social Media account]*

The small community of Brimfield Township, just east of Akron, Ohio, is home to one of the most famous police departments in social media history, as evidenced by its 91,000-plus Facebook followers. About 7,000 are residents — an impressive total considering the township's entire population is about 10,500.

David A. Oliver has served as Brimfield's police chief for almost 10 years and as a member of the department for nearly 20. Since 2010, he and his officers have used Facebook to maintain a constant dialogue with residents and build a positive image of police in the community.

Learn more about Chief Oliver and Brimfield at [www.facebook.com/BrimfieldPolice](http://www.facebook.com/BrimfieldPolice)

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## Police Chief Receives Outpouring of Support for ALICE despite a few Misinformed Parents.

This November 14, 2013 Facebook post by Police Chief Oliver received over 150 positive comments within 24 hours. His letter was in response to the local school canceling a parents night (to discuss ALICE) by the request of a parent.

*Brimfield parents...*

*As many of you know, the meeting, about the ALICE program, we had scheduled for last night was cancelled. That was not our doing and we are working to remedy the problem. The meeting was for parents and was going to cover the ALICE program, which is a response to active threats inside of the building. ALICE is an acronym and stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate. The program is used widely throughout the United States as a way to prepare and train teachers, students and police.*

The training we have designed for the schools is based on your child's age and ability.  
*Chief Oliver, Brimfield Chief of Police*

*As part of the training the students and teachers receive, we had drills scheduled. The drills would have been different for each of our buildings, based on the age of the students. The high school drill is complex, complete with drama students assisting us, along with a starter pistol type device used to fire blanks to create a distraction and lots of noise for the drill. That is where a couple of you came unglued. Most of it was lack of communication and rumors. There were not going to be any functioning weapons used in the drill. One parent called for me and talked about us "waving a gun around the school and firing blanks." Yikes. The school eventually put the drill on "hold," due to calls from a couple of parents.*

*We live in a different world today than we did when we were kids. We had to worry about far different things than I worry about today, while trying to keep 2,000+ students safe. One of those things is an active shooter in a school. There have been at least three in the United States this year so far. A tool we have available, which should always be used, is training. The training we have designed for the schools is based on your child's age and ability. We would NEVER run around an elementary school firing blanks and shouting instructions. I have four children and would not want that for my own children. The very simple concept is*

*this....we have to prepare for the worst, while we hope or pray for the best. In any task, we must prepare in order to be at our best. We are training the teachers and students to survive the worst.*

*We have been conducting fire and tornado drills for years. Some of us had to scurry under the desks to hide from nuclear fall-out during drills. Soon, the State of Ohio will make active threat drills mandatory; the Bill making it law is in the works now. As usual, we try to stay ahead of these things. We started "soft" active threat drills the year I became chief. I will do everything possible to keep these children safe. I know most and care for every single one of them.*

*Parents...we will be doing drills in the schools. These drills will be called drills and everyone will know they are nothing but drills. In the high school we will throw some curve balls to the students and staff. The elementary drills will be much more "fun" for the students. My officers will be present to conduct and supervise and we will educate students on what reactions they should take based on what problem they are encountering. We are not doing it to "scare" the kids. We are preparing them so they can return home to you every day, no matter what they face.*

*PLEASE email or call with questions. My office number is 330-673-7716. My email is doliver@brimfieldpolice.com. We will reschedule a parent's meeting soon....Chief Oliver.*



## Most communities are just like Brimfield – ALICE Supporters.

In response to Chief Oliver's letter (above) being posted on the Brimfield Police Departments public Facebook account, Chief Oliver received a record amount of positive comments regarding his ALICE implementation efforts.

Like Brimfield, supportive parents, teachers and residents far outweigh the minority who prefer their kids not be trained - we often find their objection was due to misinformation.

Similar to what Chief Oliver has experienced, the ALICE Training Institute receives similar comments, emails, and phone calls on a daily basis. For us, it's just business as usual.

We thought it may be helpful for any K-12 school districts who are contemplating ALICE to see how it's normally embraced by parents, teachers and residents. Like Brimfield, supportive parents, teachers and residents far outweigh the minority who prefer their kids not be trained. Like Brimfield, there are always a select few who are against anything new and would rather use a lockdown-only approach developed during the cold war era. Although their voice is important, we often find that their objection was due to misinformation.



## See the support for ALICE ...

See for yourself how communities across the US respond to ALICE. We encourage you to take the time to read all the comments received by Brimfield Police. Yes, we are proud! We've also **highlighted** a few of our favorites. Odds are, your community would respond the same.

Continued Next Page.....

**Travis Marshall** The same parents complaining about the drills will be the ones talking on the news about how the police and the schools didn't do enough before it happened. I pray it never does.

Like · Reply · 140 · November 14 at 10:21am via mobile



**Christopher Babb** Spot on.

Like · 2 · November 14 at 10:33am



**Linda Hodges** EXACTLY!!

Like · 2 · November 14 at 10:38am



**Stephanie Stone Short** Keep up the GOOD work!!!

Like · 2 · November 14 at 10:39am



**Mark Lewis** And these are the same parents that will complain no matter what.

Like · 6 · November 14 at 10:43am



**Pat Walker** My thoughts exactly Travis.....What the heck is wrong with parents that can't see the benefits of keeping their children safe.....Lord have mercy on their souls

Like · 4 · November 14 at 10:43am



**Eric Andrews** These are the same people who sit there and whine that "It shouldn't be this way!" Well, sad fact of reality, there are a lot of madmen out there and they are armed to the teeth. Too many people want to pine for the "good old days" that are gone and never coming back, and bury their heads in the sand as their bodies are being filled with bullets

Like · 2 · November 14 at 11:16am



**Cheryl Avey Hicks** ask the parents of SANDY HOOK if they wish they had had these types of police drills at the school, maybe it would have made a difference. You folks in Brimfield are lucky to have a police chief who cares and plans ahead.

Like · 12 · November 14 at 11:23am



**John Visone** Actually Sandy Hook did have lock down drills which they went into during the situation, Unfortunately nothing will stop this from happening again, i am not going to debate here what they may have done different at sandy hook. But if you don't train in advance and give guidance before something happens, when it does things will be far worse.

Like · 2 · November 14 at 1:44pm



**Charley H Cat** I was at Sandy Hook in the aftermath. Those drills are credited with keeping the body count down.

Like · November 15 at 7:27pm



Write a reply...



**Michael Miller** I guess I have a different beef with the events as they have unfolded. When did common sense leave the school system? The school administration has no business bowing to the complaints of a few poorly informed or agenda driven parents. The safety of the children is far more important than covering your own behind. Please start doing what you "know" to be right and deal with the potential consequences afterwards. I'm sure the community will back you up if you're doing the right thing.

Like · Reply · 12 · November 14 at 2:09pm



Brimfield Police Department replied · 3 Replies



**Tricia Greathouse** Chief my question is what about the student in the elementary school who have hard time understanding between real and fake. My child is a special needs child and I don't want him scared to go back to school because of these drills, due to his lack of reasoning skills, I guess my question is to you is how to you handle these drills with the children in the intervention classes

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 2:35pm via mobile



**Brimfield Police Department** Tricia...we have officers trained to teach them without making them nervous or scared....Chief Oliver.

Like · 18 · November 14 at 2:39pm



**Sue Naylor Clark** I love the discourse on this page. That's a fair question respectfully stated, and a prompt, direct response. Kudos to you, Brimfield!

Like · 3 · November 14 at 11:54pm



Write a reply...



**Brenda Conover Lewis** This is the first notice I've had about the meeting. Or is FACA not included?

Like · Reply · November 14 at 12:41pm via mobile



**Brimfield Police Department** Brenda....FACA is included also. We will advise when the parent meeting will take place...Chief Oliver.

Like · 2 · November 14 at 1:10pm



Write a reply...



**Tony Wells** Don't you find ALICE to be outdated and proven ineffective? The DHS doesn't even have it on their website anymore.

Evacuate

Hide

Take Action

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 11:13am · Edited



**Brimfield Police Department** Tony....no ,we don't. It fits for us...Chief Oliver.

Like · 9 · November 14 at 11:29am



**Clarence Aiken** They just had that drill at KSU where my wife works so it's still on somebody's books as "Still Effective"

Like · 5 · November 14 at 11:47am



**Teri Wilson Edwards** Um- my daughter just completed the ALICE training for her degree in education and they do NOT advise having the children hide! That makes the bad guy's job easier.... plus- have you been in a classroom lately Tony Wells? Not many places to hide...

Like · 4 · November 14 at 11:53am



**Dianne Buxton** Tony.....outdated or not, it is doing something PROACTIVE, instead of doing nothing and choosing to remain reactive only. I live in the Akron area, about 30 minutes from Brimfield, and this issue hit close to home a couple years ago in Chardon, about an hour or so away. No one, not even children, can live with their heads in the sand anymore and pretend life is peachy all the time.

Like · 1 · November 14 at 11:54am



**Tony Wells** I find it amazing how easily people can take a post out of context. I'm a former Marine with ZERO tolerance to those who would harm innocents. There are several training methods for active shooters, all complete with their own acronym. I recently attended a seminar in Toledo, and the training was fantastic (but gloomy). I was led to believe that there was a national trend moving away from A.L.I.C.E because of the second acronym "Lockdown". They are listed in order of action.

Teri Wilson Edwards hit the nail on the head with "hiding children makes the bad guys job easier". Seung-Hui Cho (Virginia Tech Shooter) actually practiced shooting targets on the ground at point blank range before his killing spree. He did that is the position in which his victims would be in.

Dianne, my idea of proactive would be to place armed guards at every entrance. I am not an advocate of "gun free zones" which should be re-termed "criminal friendly zones".

Like · 12 · November 14 at 12:22pm · Edited



**Brimfield Police Department** Tony...I understood your post. I am aware of tactics that would be better. My issue is that the age group we work with is so large. We have age specific training, which seems to work. Thanks for your service....Chief Oliver.

Like · 5 · November 14 at 12:40pm



**Tony Wells** I know you did Chief! I wanted to be a little more clear for my "not-so" fan club that was forming.

Like · 3 · November 14 at 12:41pm



**Sandy Schultz** Tony, thank you for clarifying your post for those of us who wondered about the direction you were going. I think it is safe to say we ALL want the young people, no matter their age, to be safe in school. I agree with armed guards at the doors, however, I am scared to death of weapons so that wouldn't sit well with me going into that building. I am an adult by the way with grand children, so I have that Catch-22 going.

Like · 1 · November 14 at 1:00pm



**Tony Wells** Sandy, I understand your fear, and it's healthy. Bear in mind, a firearm is no more lethal than a lamp, until it is turned into a weapon either by ignorance or malice. When both ignorance or malice lead to the loss of life, it's equally tragic.

Like · 6 · November 14 at 1:12pm · Edited



**Joe Hendry** Tony, actually the lockdown in ALICE is not traditional lockdown. It involves barricading, allowing movement and preparing counter measures inside a room. Also, ALICE is not a linear program. One thing does not lead to another in the acronym. Actually, ALICE has existed for more than 11 years and has set the National standard for response. I've been training it for 4.5 years and nationally for two for the ALICE Training Institute. Not sure who gave you bad scuttlebutt Brother. Semper Fi!

Like · 3 · November 14 at 2:47pm



**Tony Wells** Thanks brother. I don't want to publicly point a finger at where the scuttlebutt came from, as it was from a LEO during actual training. Can I hit you with a PM? By the way, it wasn't from the Toledo PD. that I referred to earlier.

Like · 1 · November 14 at 2:57pm · Edited



**Joe Hendry** Always happy to set the record straight.

Like · 1 · November 14 at 3:48pm



**Joe Hendry** BTW, I believe Toledo is an ALICE district.

Like · 2 · November 14 at 5:02pm



**Charles Krimm** The DHS are the ones you need to worry about they are the 2nd best armed army inside of our borders. Did Ohio take any of the armored mine proof APC's they were handing out last couple of years?

Like · November 14 at 5:37pm



Write a reply...



**Jana Gendrich** Chief - we live in Euclid. My daughter, aged 11, has been practicing "lock down" drills since she was in 1st grade. I find the thought of it terrifying, but she knows exactly what to do. But one day, an angry dad showed up at school and sure enough, the school went on lock down and all of the kids were calm and knew exactly what to do. It's imperative our children are safe. Part of safe I believe is trying to remain calm. I think showing them what to do helps. I agree - preparation is key. Best of luck.

Like · Reply · 51 · November 14 at 10:24am



**Terri Hatfield Wallis** Jana - we can only protect our kids so much - I find it comforting to know that our kids knows what to do - you just never know in this world and I don't want mine thinking that "everything is ok" all the time - because that isn't a guarantee.

Like · 2 · November 14 at 11:04am



Write a reply...



**Anne Sleepy Kramer** Oh my heavens, people. I would think I would rather have my kid a little spooked and very prepared rather than have them be a victim in some senseless act of violence at their school. Bravo to you Chief and your crew for devoting your time to keep those kids safe and prepared for anything.

Like · Reply · 43 · November 14 at 10:18am



**Grand Rapids Police Department** Good job Chief. "The police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence."

-Sir Robert Peel

Like · Reply · 40 · November 14 at 10:33am



**Sheila Barker** I'm moving to Brimfield.

Like · Reply · 31 · November 14 at 10:18am



**Crystal Flower Heart** Me too, Sheila. Me too.

Like · November 14 at 11:20am



**Carole L Alexander** Lived there for 33 years, awesome place, great schools and very little 'bad' guys!! WTG chief

Like · 1 · November 14 at 11:51am

[View more replies](#)



**Miranda Gammella** Kudos to you, Chief, for taking the initiative to keep the children (and others) safe.

Like · Reply · 26 · November 14 at 10:17am



**Marcel Krueger** Speaking as a police officer and a Law Enforcement Active Shooter Response instructor it is a crucial that our teachers and students know what their rolls are during a worst case scenario. Chief keep up the fight for our children's safety.

Like · Reply · 22 · November 14 at 10:48am via mobile



**Terri Hatfield Wallis** Amen!

Like · November 14 at 11:08am



**Charles Krimm** Have you found any parenting education drills to pass out as well? We have some serious parenting failures which have led to these tragic consequences.

Like · 3 · November 14 at 5:40pm



**Jan Hill Deckard** Sounds like you're going to have your hands full just trying to "train" parents. Hats off to you and your officers for taking this training into the schools and giving kids the knowledge that we all hope they'll never have to use.

Like · Reply · 19 · November 14 at 10:23am via mobile



**Beverly Borland Cox** Parents are the toughest ones to convince that you are only trying to keep their children safe. I had a mom call a principal at one of the schools i drove for because I was "picking on her daughter". I was instructing her on proper crossing procedure when she got on and off the bus. I contacted the mom and explained it to her and even sent her a letter with the crossing instructions. A few weeks later, when this middle school girl was outside the bus waiting for my signal, a car ran my red stop lights! I honked the horn and the girl did not cross, but the mother was in her yard and she was so greatful that I took the time with her daughter to keep her safe. The daughter thanked me the next morning! The parents need to be more PRO-ACTIVE. I admire you Chief for doing the job you do! Carry On! LOL

Like · Reply · 19 · November 14 at 10:26am



**Matt Leary** Fire is pretty scary as well but parents always tell their kids what to do in the event of one. Wake up parental minority. You are doing your children a major disservice if you do not inoculate them to the fact that there are bad people in this world. Give them the tools to survive and come home to you.

Like · Reply · 15 · November 14 at 10:22am via mobile



**Kerryann Bouré** My kids' elementary school had their first ALICE almost a year ago. When they came home and told me about it, I did the whole "That's GREAT that you know what to do now." My 8 year old was upset about hiding in the closet. When my kids left the room, I had a really good cry. It's a necessary evil that we now live with. Parents, wake up. It happens EVERYWHERE and can happen ANYWHERE. Do you want to protect your kids "so much" that you forget to teach them how to be protected? We want our little ones coming home after school. Let the school do their job.

Like · Reply · 35 · November 14 at 10:22am



**Linda Kritzer Edwards** I live in a small school district. 300 kids k-12 grade in one building. We have done ALICE. The staff only drill was last spring and several of the teachers that I spoke with were amazed at how empowered they felt afterwards. They did 2 drills , the first with the old school hide reactions and the second with the new ALICE reactions. the first...everyone died. everyone. The second no one died, some received "injuries" but everyone survived. Yes it was scary and they were nervous but afterwards they were convinced they could survive. Made some serious believers around here. Just last week they came back and did the drill with the students. I babysit several school aged kids and they were so proud of themselves for their reactions and relieved to know what to do to escape and survive. It's a scary thing but effective and sadly needed. Please Residents of Brimfield embrace the program...it could be the saving grace in a time of devastation.

Like · Reply · 14 · November 14 at 10:49am



**Jan Patetta** In Barberton, the parents were notified many, many times WEEKS in advance about the drill at BHS. It was made totally clear that this was a drill. Roads were blocked, escape routes planned in advance, and students & staff were ready. The news media was there as well. We can't be totally prepared but we can be better prepared.

Like · Reply · 12 · November 14 at 10:21am via mobile



**Pat Walker** Amen.

Like · 3 · November 14 at 10:48am







**Carolyn Majors** We MUST be prepared and alert at all times these days. Thank you for the training you are offering your schools.

Like · Reply · 12 · November 14 at 10:17am



**Nadine Soldavini Hastings** You do what you need to in order to keep the kids safe. Some parent's overreact to everything.

Like · Reply · 9 · November 14 at 10:19am



**Brian Vogel** Parents can be very stupid. Stop raising sissies, your job as a parent is to prepare your children for reality. In reality, some parents have raised monsters, and if you raise your child to be afraid of a cap gun, you have created a victim.

Like · Reply · 10 · November 14 at 10:58am via mobile



**Kristin Martin Leidtke** When my son came home the other day and told me it was cancelled because of a few parents I was upset and couldn't believe it. Like it was said above. Those parents who are having a fit will be the same ones complaining that nothing was done to prepare for a situation if one were to happen.

Like · Reply · 10 · November 14 at 10:32am via mobile



**Mindy Bond** Being from Chardon, we're all too familiar with the need for this type of thing. While what happened here was horrific and lives were lost, I truly believe that the training the kids received prevented a worse tragedy. Like many others have stated, I would rather have my child "spooked" about something, but learning the right way to react during an actual event. Communication at school and at home is essential.

Like · Reply · 8 · November 14 at 10:32am



**Deb Potter** I often visit schools here in Upstate South Carolina as their artist in residence & had the opportunity to participate in one of these drills in an elementary school setting. I sat on the floor holding small children to quiet them as their teacher quickly & calmly scurried around the room to be sure doors were locked, lights (including the tiny one of the computer) were off, a sheet of cardboard was taped over the small window in the door, children were safe behind bookcases, etc.. We made a hiding game of it & the students were great. As an adult I was very aware of the difference between a drill & a threat but it was still heartbreaking to think that it was necessary. But it is most certainly NECESSARY! Teachers know their students & how to handle them. They also need the opportunity to familiarize themselves with all involved in the process should the need arise.

Like · Reply · 7 · November 14 at 10:24am



**Pat Walker** To add to all of the comments....I would assume that everyone by now knows the names of these parents?? IF so, who are they really going to blame if something horrible happens to their children because YOU parents denied the other children the right to be prepared....The nay sayers will be the first ones to gritch at LEO's saying they didn't do enough....The truth might be, that it was because of YOU defiant parents, without an ounce of sense...Just sayin.

Like · Reply · 7 · November 14 at 10:53am



**Betty Cable** Chief Oliver, just an idea, plan a night - Saturday etc. of parents only "at" school. Have them sign up to experience the ALICE drill. Let them experience what their child might have to face one day. "God forbid it should ever happen anywhere again." Maybe if they have the first hand experience of possible violence it could, might calm the nay sayers up! This isn't a Bullet proof society but anything that saves lives or slows it down is possible, People we have to try and protect our Children!

Like · Reply · 8 · November 14 at 11:42am



**Rhys Smith** For any parent there are concerns, but this type of program has been long in coming. At the risk of being callous, had more people been trained like this, the number of people killed and injured in school shootings in this country (and others) would be minimal at best. Better prepared and trained will result in safer schools and kids. Those parents complaining about the training need to decide whether they want their children to sit idly by hoping and praying that they are spared or they want their children to have a chance to come home should an active shooter incident occur at a school. Active shooter incidents are tragic for a number of reasons. The shooter knows there is no one to stop them for as long as it takes LEOs to arrive on scene, which can be an eternity for some. They also know our kids and teachers are unarmed and incapable of fighting back, they also know they are afraid and cowering in fear making them even easier targets. Lockdowns get people killed. look at any of the school shootings and you will see failure in the lockdown system. This type of training goes beyond lockdown by giving the students the training, tactics, and procedures to make sure that should lockdown be needed, they can significantly increase the probability of coming home. Training like this is tailored to the age of the students. Obviously no one is going to ask a K-grader to do the same things a high school student would. Likewise individual students have different capabilities. The great thing is that they are being given a better chance of coming home. We teach defensive driving to help our kids come home. We teach them about the dangers of drugs, etc. to help them come home. Why not teach them some basics that can be used in an active shooter situation? As a parent, I have long discussed the realities of active shooter incidents with our kids. Unfortunate, we have had to give them different instructions that they are given at their schools because the school will get them killed if left to them. This program is a good program and very much needed.

Like · Reply · 8 · November 14 at 10:55am



**Denise Pierson** The complainers will be the first to be outraged if an incident would occur. Kids need to be prepared. Helicopter parents need to step back. Good job BPD!

Like · Reply · 7 · November 14 at 10:46am via mobile



**Scott Rome** INCREDIBLE !!!

Blows my mind to know parents, especially in Brimfield, could act this way!! If any one of these parents had to endure the loss that that some parents experienced in the Sandyhook incident, I guarantee they wouldn't be acting this way!!

The thing is EVERY school in the country is a Sandyhook!! If you think this couldn't happen to you, to your kids, you are sadly mistaken!! Drills are great, they teach younger students what they should and need to do in case of an incident!! Keep moving forward Chief!! Either get on the bus, or don't, but, don't lie down in front of the bus so that the rest of the kids can't learn to protect themselves!!

These are probably the same parents that do not participate in school board activities, community action groups, or even their own child's education! Grow up people, this isn't Mayberry ANYMORE !!!

Thank you Chief!! Don't give up on these parents, more importantly, don't give up on their KIDS!! It is clear to the rest of us that you are doing the "right" thing by educating these children and school administrators!! Thank you, for being YOU !!!

Like · Reply · 6 · November 14 at 12:36pm via mobile



**Rebecca Romine-Scalise** These same parents are probably right up there with the bunch of gun grabbers that believe a gun will just jump off of a table and start mass shootings all by itself! Even if it does fire blanks they want everyone to fear the gun! (Smh)

Like · Reply · 6 · November 14 at 10:54am via mobile



**Lisa Bittner Ballard** I think the high school students need to know what it could possibly sound like and the chaos. If not prepared for that then panic takes over and they could do the wrong thing.

Like · Reply · 5 · November 14 at 10:21am via mobile



**Pat Walker** I am quite positive that Cheap Otter and his officers know exactly how to handle each grade level, and PREPARES them for what could be on any given day....They are never too young to learn...AND they might have to learn it the hard way if not prepared and something unforeseen should happen....

Like · 2 · November 14 at 10:47am



Write a reply...



**Michelle Duhamel** When I was in 6th grade, our girl scout leader had a police officer show us a movie on what can happen if we take rides with strangers, take candy etc. She had to have permission slips from the parents. If the parents didn't sign, the girl didn't watch. It was very graphic. One part showed a police photo of a little girls body (we saw legs and hands) covered in leaves in the woods. It scared me to death.... which means I paid attention to what the police officer said. I can still see the movie in my head. Training, information and confidence in our police officers is crucial to keeping kids safe. Get a grip parents. It's far worse out there now than in our day and we need to do anything and everything to keep our kids safe. Even if it makes YOU uncomfortable.

Like · Reply · 6 · November 14 at 7:04pm



**Laurie Schickler Habig** Having weapons firing blanks is a highly reasonable idea. You can practice all you want, but without the "real" sights and sounds, students will panic. This drill should cut down on the panic factor.

Like · Reply · 6 · November 14 at 10:37am



**Jon Huggins** We implemented ALICE in our schools here along with many enhanced security measures. The program has been well received by our parents. Those that oppose it only do so from a lack of information. It is sad but we live in a time when this is as important as fire drills for our schools and perhaps more so because most schools have fire suppression systems built in. This is a great program. Chief Jon Huggins, Lenox Iowa Police Department

Like · Reply · 6 · November 14 at 10:27am · Edited



**Cindy McDonald Mathias** I am a retired teacher who substitutes. I got to participate in the first ALICE drill in our school. I was in a first grade room. I was so proud of those little students. We taught them to hide and what to do if the intruder came in the room. We explained it and made it feel very safe. No one was upset but me when I got home. I was upset because in today's world we have to prepare these kids for this.

Like · Reply · 4 · November 14 at 10:59am



**Darren Clark** See thats whats wrong with parents today, I am a 29 year old father of a 7 year old princess, my daughter has never heard a gun shot or seen a fight. I would have loved to have a realistic event like this when I was in highschool. These parents want to filter there children until a shooting does happen then they are quick to point the finger. If you as a parent would open your "horizons" and put your children in training exercises like this maybe one day they will know what to do in a shooting situation like we all have seen numerous times. Maybe these parents will take up on the free training and learn



something, good job chief Oliver

Like · Reply · 4 · November 14 at 10:54am via mobile



**Christina Taulbee DeLaigle** The same parents, though, will allow their children to watch violent cartoons on tv and not think at all that they are insulating their children to NOT be aware when a situa

Like · November 14 at 1:20pm



**Christina Taulbee DeLaigle** The same parents, though, will allow their children to watch violent cartoons on tv and not think at all that they are insulating their children to NOT be aware when a situation becomes a danger.

Like · 1 · November 14 at 1:21pm

[View more replies](#)



Write a reply...



**Kristi Lynn Mason** I love the fact that you not only inform your community, but also educate them. People need to drop the rose-colored glasses and step into a little place called reality. This kind of drill is very important for the teachers and the kids.

Like · Reply · 5 · November 14 at 10:25am



**Lynda Klodt** Better to be prepared and not need it, than to need it and not be prepared.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 11:18am



**Gail Cordy** You cannot please everyone, no matter what you do. The key is to do what you know is right and handle the detractors with your usual iron-clad grace, humor and resolve. Thank you for protecting our children and their teachers. Brimfield residents are more fortunate than some of them know. Thank you, Chief Oliver!

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 10:41am



**Mark Lewis** When are we going to start telling the ninny parents to just shut up and deal with it and stop letting them control everything with their silly fears?

Like · Reply · 10 · November 14 at 10:20am



**Cynthia Peck Strand** huh do you know where you live? The inmates have been running the assylum here in America for a while. Sad but so true.

Like · 3 · November 14 at 10:32am



**Mark Lewis** That is my point. Instead of coddling them, we need to just tell them to get over it.

Like · 3 · November 14 at 10:40am



Write a reply...



**Teri Wilson Edwards** I wonder if the complaining parents let their little darlings play the violent video games

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 11:56am



**Terri Rager** Those same parents are always the last to read the memo's sent home with their children. If they paid any attention to the kids daily they wouldn't be so surprised with a "drill".

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 11:03am



**Edi Alexander-Bland** Once again, you and your department have shown yourselves to be way ahead of the game and once again you are made to deal with ignorance on the part of those you serve so well. You are truly a wise and patient man...and the community is SOOOOO fortunate to have you and your excellent caring ways.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 10:32am



**John Blalock** Fire drills are mandatory. How long has it been since we lost a student in a fire? I'd be willing to bet more have been lost to active shooters than to fire in the last 10 years. Doesn't it make sense to drill for active shooters? The parents who complained need to accept that this kind of tragedy can happen anywhere and to anyone.

Like · Reply · 4 · November 14 at 12:19pm



**ChipandMelanie Bittecuffer** As a veteran and a parent. Please do all you can do to prepare the staff and my child for this horrific act. I don't care what it takes!!!! I would rather the children be alive and safe. Then completely surprised by the danger that is present in our world. Thank you chief THANK YOU!!!!!!

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 12:18pm via mobile



**Amy Kane** What a shame that, as usual, a few complaining parents ruined something incredibly useful (and possibly life-saving!) I teach in Stow and this is our second year of ALICE training. My 7 year old daughter does just fine with the drills - as do all of my 8th graders. Do I wish training such as this wasn't necessary? OF COURSE! But it is, and we are literal fools if we

choose to ignore the reality if the world in which we live.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 12:08pm via mobile



**Jennifer Bailey Etzel** I went to the ALICE meeting here in Akron. It is scary. But this is what has to be done because the old way of huddling in a corner just makes our children sitting ducks. It was hard to imagine having to do any of these things but we need to have the children secure in knowing what to do.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 10:46am



**John Blythe** Our schools did this and it is worth the time, Parents go, so you know! Help prepare the kids.

Like · Reply · 4 · November 14 at 10:38am



**Kathy Murphy** I think this is a great thing to do for the students. The parents should be thanking their lucky stars that YOU CARE!!!! Please continue to protect and serve these children the best way you know how.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 10:35am



**Christine Johnson Gradisher** Everyone thinks something like a school shooting will never happen here...well, I am sure that is what every other small town school shooting victims thought...most of those schools were not "big city" schools but schools in smaller rural communities where, like it or not, kids are raised on hunting and guns. I am not one of those people who raised my children like that but as adults they hunt and are very safe with their weapons. I have never been prouder of my community, school system and our police department. I would hope those parents who are freaking out will realize these drills could some day save their child's life. Thank you chief for doing everything you can to protect our children.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 10:30am



**Jan Zupancic** Geez, sorry to hear that those in your schools became unglued. They should get the facts BEFORE having to cancel a vital training session. Besides, did they really think you & the BPD in general wouldn't do it right? Do they not KNOW you by now? I agree with Travis Marshall's comments.

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 10:47am



**Luis Pascher** I'm not a parent, but I took ALICE at my employer's town's local PD in Richfield. I took the adult version and also stayed to check out the Safety Town kids version. Many people at my employer have opted to take this course and it is eye-opening, educational and most importantly: thought provoking. At no point did anyone fee they werel in danger, and there were age ranges from high school to elderly in attendance. Highly recommended, and though many will say it could be updated or improved... so can most things, and it is hundreds of times better than staying ignorant on the subject.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 12:13pm



**Erika Gainer** My child attends elementary school in the Field Local district, and I was one of the handful of parents who attended the ALICE informational meeting last spring. I (along with others) was moved to tears during the meeting at the compassion and dedication that these officers and teachers have for our students. I learned so much more than I thought I would about the ALICE program. Not only can it save lives in schools, but it was knowledge that I could take with me for everyday life in this scary world. If you have a child in the district, I urge you to attend the meeting.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 11:36am via mobile



**William West** Beslan. Look it up. Read about it. Then hit your knees tonight and give thanks that you have a PD as diligent as the BPD. Hooah, Chief. Charlie Mike.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 11:15am



**Rob Crihfield** I have done this drill. It is awesome! As an adult dealing with so called adults. It was an eye opener plus a great learning/survival tool. Please let them do these drills. CHIEF, can you invite the parents to get involved? It would be the easiest way to get this task completed. PARENTS, if you could speak to the adults and children who actually went through an event like this for real. The ones who survived or lost their loved ones would've paid to have had this kind of training. Please let them train the kids. I want my daughter to come home, I don't know what I would do without her. Semper Fi Chief.

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 11:13am via mobile



**Jan Kimball** Great job, Chief. You're doing these drills because you want people and children to be safe. I don't know you personally, but everything that I read about here about actions you've taken before, lead me to believe that you are taking all known precautions in this drill. Prayers for you and your community.

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 10:50am



**Tony Rimpf** Proper planning prevents piss-poor performance. And the performance if these drills in an active situation cannot be piss-poor. Keep pushing for the training!!

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 10:36am via mobile



**Linda Enteles** As a teacher of younger children for these past 29 years, please Chief Oliver, do everything you are able to do to keep ahead of a situation like we had here in Sparks - be alert and prepared and train everyone to be eyes and ears for safety!

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 10:24am via mobile



**Diane Heiser Andexler** As a parent, I totally agree with all the proactive drills. Atleast I know that my child will know what to do in the case of any kind of threat in the schools even throwing in more senarios at the upper school levels should help a parent to know their kids are going to be as safe as possible seeing how most issues happen in the upper school levels.

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 10:21am via mobile



**Christopher Babb** Overly sensitive/easily offended parents can really mess things up for the rest of us normal people.

Like · Reply · 6 · November 14 at 10:34am



**Deby Daly** So sorry that some parents misunderstood what you are trying to accomplish. While I understand their angst, common sense should prevail in knowing you are not going to put their kids in danger. Thank you for taking the time to explain this to everyone. Again, I wish I lived in Brimfield. You guys rock!

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:42am



**Erin Barton** Being from a police family, I consider that preparing our children to be of paramount importance. My issue was that several of us went last night and were not aware that the meeting was canceled. I receive automated calls from the school regarding the levy, cookie dough orders and other issues but received no notification that the meeting was canceled. I got a sitter and rearranged my schedule to attend. The lack of communication was a miss. Unfortunately, our world is different than it used to be. We conduct fire drills yet more children have been killed in school shootings than fires in the past 50 years. Perhaps the school system should have been proactive and communicated the program to parents and why it is important beforehand instead of being reactive after false information was going around. My kindergartener understands why this is important and yes, it scares me and has forced us to have unpleasant conversations but I would rather deal with that now than deal with a lack of understanding and those consequences. Sorry for the rant but I think this situation could have been handled differently by school leadership. As parents, we certainly want to shelter our children from anything negative but to do so in a way that impacts their safety is not doing them any favors. I really look forward to the community getting on board so we can better prepare and protect our kids.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 3:06pm via mobile



**Carol J Phillips Lieb** I took ALICE training at Kent State. It is well worth the time.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 11:33am



**Pat Walker** You would think that it is only happening in Brimfield....HELLO, this training is going on in every school in the USA....Don't you want your children to learn how to be safe?? Lord back in my school days, we had blackout drills....AND no parent was ignorant...

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:44am



**Cynthia Watson** Such a shame that parents reacted without all of the facts. Would they prefer an armed intruder waving a gun around instead? We recently had a presentation on ALICE for our place of work. Drills are the only way to practice one's response. Much like self-defense, you have to do it over and over until it is second nature. These parents need a dose of reality. I hope you are able to continue with this very worthwhile program.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:43am



**Valerie Petron** apparently some of these "parents" haven't read or seen the news lately. this CAN & WILL happen! we pray it doesn't happen in our communities but PREPARATION is never a bad subject. DO NOT COMPLAIN if something happens & you or your loved ones that they could not help themselves. Chief Oliver, I respect you for taking this seriously & buck up parents, this will be a law very shortly.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:36am



**Amy Garrett** Our library staff (Stow-Munroe Falls Public) has been through ALICE training. I sincerely hope we never have to use it.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 11:36am via mobile



**Cathy Tucker** It's is called desensitizing sad but a nesecary thing

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:46am



**Shirley Shannahan** Great job! Education is everything.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:20am



**Lois Ann Reece** I think parent's need drills too, on how they should act/react. Many of them seem to panic and want to rush right over and snatch up kids etc instead of letting cooler, experienced heads lead.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 1:54pm



**C Wolf Forrest** Reminds me of the time, as a California State Humane Officer, we tried to train dogs appropriately. Took 10 minutes for the dogs and 3 hours for the owners.

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 1:42pm



**Matt Burdeno** I can understand that some parents may be worried that their children will be scared, confused, etc. However if this scenario were to actually happen, it is this training that would help them to be able to function and do as instructed. Imagine how much more frightening it would be to a child with no training compared to one who knows what to do. I think that a lot of people feel like "it wont happen here", I'm sure that's what the people at every location that this has happened at felt the same way prior. Its a sad fact that we need this type of training and the sooner we admit that, the better off we will be. I applaud and encourage what the schools, BPD and parents are doing to protect our precious children.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 12:56pm



**Jennifer Leanne Kovatch Cook** Once you implement this training please work with surrounding area schools and law enforcement to do the same!!! We need more advocates for the best interest of our children like you!!!! I'm from Massillon I have one at Massillon city and one at Tuslaw it would be great to do here!!!!

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 12:48pm via mobile



**Michele Straub** Thank you Chief Oliver and staff for wanting to keep our children safe! It's too bad a few unhappy parents have to ruin it for everyone. There is no harm in being prepared!!

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 12:19pm via mobile



**Kim Phifer** Blah, Blah, Blah...whiny ass people is part of whats wrong with our society today. In this situation...the whiny parents. Why can't you just be happy, or at least grateful, that our protectors of the community are making sure YOUR child/children are coming home to YOU safe an unharmed. I'd much rather my child be subjected to "blanks" preparing them for a time when those "blanks" may be live rounds whizzing by their heads. Grow up and quit being pansies and let your children learn how to protect themselves!!!

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 12:01pm · Edited



**Shannon Major** I don't think its any different than sounding the fire alarm during a fire drill....Training and educating staff and students for these type's of emergencies is a good thing in my opinion.....Thank you BPD!

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 10:50am



**Jeremy Urban** I too am in your court Chief. I have 5 kids. I hate that they are being taught to hide in closets, etc. It is very very disheartening. However, I love my kids, and I don't want to be that parent on the news. I need these kids to come home everyday. I think in this day and time they need to know what to do. Kudos to you!!

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 10:29am via mobile



**John Shumigalski** Well said, Chief...

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 10:20am



**Doug Staples** Great work Chief

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:19am via mobile



**Jen Glasser Proaño** Awesome.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:18am



**Crystal Flower Heart** Shared. Wish our local PD and school dist. would do this.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 11:20am



**Patricia Elliott** I remember the "nuke" drills! Use scare me half to death and I would have nightmares days afterwards! As I got older and was able to comprehend the danger better, I was able to deal with them better! I think it's wonderful that you do age appropriate drills with your students. Hopefully less scary for them and helps to make the students more aware! Unfortunately, as you said, these drills are necessary to keep our schools and children safe! Thank you Chief, and to your staff, for keeping the safety of the children uppermost in your minds!!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 12:26pm via mobile



**Heather Smalldemian-Hayes** Chief can you advise how we "unfortunate" non-Brimfield residents can start a conversation with our local schools / police force to get the up front and center communication style between parents/town residents like you have implemented? I get a large part of it is just who you are, but I hear so often the "problems" are due to lack of participation/interest from "us" vs "them" mentality - I just really am so impressed with what you and your team do and the way in which you do it and wish my area had you all - maybe you could start and "send em hear for training and scatter them all over the USA" program. I believe in what you and your team do and feel how much it all matters and honestly want a piece of it in my community - PS my kids a pre-teen and a teenager think you and your officers are so cool, can't think of better mentors Thanks for what you do and God Bless!

Like · Reply · 3 · November 14 at 11:02am



**Emily Anderson** Hey, at least there is a program for schools now. When my kids were small and there was Columbine there was no real well thought out training as there is now. I told my son after Columbine if that ever happens to jump out of the window (first floor) of his school and run like crazy until he gets to Yiyia's house! I still dont like the idea of kids staying

inside the school like sitting ducks really.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 15 at 11:47pm via mobile · Edited



**Amanda Eggers Bumgardner** The school system in my area have already had the drill earlier this year. Nothing but praise all around from studets to law enforcement to administration. some people are not happy unless they have something to whine about.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 11:32am via mobile



**Janette White Jones** Teri Wilson Edwards, my thoughts EXACTLY concerning the violent video games!!!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 1:01pm via mobile · Edited



**Robert Knotts** Keep fighting the good fight Chief!!!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 11:51am via mobile



**Stephannie Roziok** Much more pleasant than sticking your head in the sand.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 11:45pm via mobile



**Leslie Hart Miller** Thank you for being on top of this and being very proactive! Hope the parents will soon understand what you are trying to do to keep their children safe!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 2:29pm



**Melissa Ann Bamler** Sandy, Please keep in mind, when u enter a school with armed guards, those persons are trained to carry and handle those weapons! I grew up with a father who is retired military, a hunter safety instructor, a CCW instructor and an all around intelligent man and wonderful father (had to!). He is more cautious and aware of his gun than anyone I know. I don't know any police men personally, cuz I would imagine they are very much the same! I know those armed guards are the only people with a gun (besides police officers) that I want anywhere near the school that my child is in! I think that people who are against this type of training are the people who are just too afraid of this type of incident. They are "paralyzed" with fear. I personally want there to be random teachers and school staff trained to carry in the schools beacuse I want my son to have a fighting chance till the police get there! I agree with the person earlier!! Chief, will you please share your planning and teaching with the surrounding communities (i.e. Stow), so I can feel as if my child is not a sitting duck! I hear more how you train your schools than I have ever heard of training in my school system. Not that my P.D. is not doing a fine job, this is just an issue that is important to me and maybe they need to become more FB savvy and put it on here too! Stay safe everyone!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 2:02pm via mobile



**Colene Thrift Denton** Bravo, Chief! Wish we had the ALICE program down here in South Georgia, although we may have something similiar. There will always be parents who don't "get" the importance of these necessary drills. It's always better to be educated and safe instead of sorry.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 10:44am via mobile · Edited



**Karen Dohner** I teach elementary school in a system that uses ALICE. Our staff training was the day before Sandy Hook. I grumbled at the time because "who shoots up elementary schools?" Now we know. My students were scared our first drill. (Now they take it in stride and have to be reminded that they need to take it seriously. (They often need the same speech for fire and tornado drills.) I'm with the lady who had a good cry. It's a sad, but necessary part of life.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · November 14 at 10:22pm



**Lori A. Huber** Had ALICE training at the hospital. Very good info, I hope I never have to use it!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 8:54pm via mobile



**Laura Watkins-Johns** Chief - I have been sharing with my kids and am very excited for them to participate in this training. I am very fortunate to be employed by Summa Health System who also offers this training for employees. It is an excellent program and has the potential for saving many lives in the event they ever have to experience an unfortunate situation. It is so much better for them to be prepared.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · November 14 at 8:06pm via mobile



**Andra Lynn Parker Johnson** I am so thankful that you all are doing this. My son is at the middle school and I welcome drills that enact the "real thing". I want my son home and whatever it takes to keep the kids safe is worth it.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · November 14 at 8:05pm via mobile



**Amy Butcher** We did our ALICE training in my school district and conducted our first set of drills. I thought it was effective and well thought out training. It's sad that we need to do this type of thing. I would rather be prepared for anything, storms, fires and active shooters!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 7:57pm



**Sandy Harris** Excellent and compassionate response, Chief. (I remember duck 'n' cover, too) Drills save lives. Be prepared.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · November 14 at 7:45pm





**Martha Thomas Hastings** I think the drills are a great idea, but I never heard about the meeting before this post. Just for my information, how will the rescheduled meeting be publicized?

Like · Reply · November 14 at 6:18pm



**Luna Hoops** Akron is rolling ALICE out in the elementary bldgs now.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 6:08pm via mobile



**Brandon Dessecker** ALICE is a great program. The instructors are fantastic

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 5:49pm via mobile



**Beth Wojcinski Pennington** I would love to speak with any parents who have a problem with this concept. I was fortunate to learn ALICE at work and found it very empowering. This was about 3 years ago and I promptly came home and spoke with my kids about how I expected them to behave if they were ever caught in a crisis situation. I would hope that those parents who want their children to attend will still have that opportunity.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 4:25pm via mobile



**Barb Ruppel** Have at it Chief and officers, our kids need to know what to do.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 4:13pm



**Louise Paolo** Grow up people. Do you want safe alive kids or do you want to go to school and wait for someone to tell you your child is DEAD?

Like · Reply · November 14 at 4:10pm



**Terri Lyn Reed** LACK OF UNDERSTANDING--really, some would think you'd use active weapons. WOW! They don't know you at all. Look forward to getting the new date.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 3:01pm



**Dave Jones** there needs to be a way to keep a few over reactive parents from keeping the children of rational parents from being prepared. I remember the days of "duck and cover" meant to prepare us for a nuclear attack that was viewed as remote but still a possibility. We were as prepared as we could be under the circumstances. As has been said we live in a different time and children need to be prepared for much different and MUCH more likely situations where they could be in danger. Why on earth any parent would not be fully on board with self preservation training for their kids is beyond me.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 1:37pm



**Peggy Wall** In Streetsboro in the 50's we dove under our desks for protection from "bombs" - I wondered how that spindly desk would keep me safe!

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 12:27pm



**ChipandMelanie Bittecuffer** Tony, I took it as you know we have more updated tactics to work with. Not at all that you did not care. Thank you for your service and your concern for our children. Anything is better than nothing in my mind. And Hoo Rah! Devil dog!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 12:23pm via mobile



**Sue Wint-McCauley** My high schooler has already had a lock down drill at school. In middle school, they had a real lockdown because of an armed shooter in the area. The kids knew what to do, because of the drills they had. No one panicked.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 12:12pm



**Connie Woods Heldenfels** We have ALICE training at the University of Akron for faculty, staff and students and it is wonderful. Makes you feel more in control if you know what to do in different circumstances. Real eye opener of what you should do and what you shouldn't. All schools should have ALICE training.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 11:51am



**Amanda Roberts** thankful to be in your district. praying we never have to put training into action but thankful it is there.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 11:25am via mobile



**Kathy Kyser Brockman** I wish my town could have a Chief like you! Children today are faced with danger. I wish my grandchildren only had to worry about fire or tornado drills, but unfortunately violence, pure violence, has entered our school halls. Good job to be proactive, rather than reactive.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 11:11am via mobile



**Rita Coonley Brown** Good for you. We always hope we'll never need this for REAL but it's best to be prepared. THANK YOU.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 11:06am





**Lynne Allan Windsor** Preach it, Chief. Keep pushing and educating so that the kids in your schools know how to stay safe in a crazy situation.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 11:05am



**J.P. Franczyk** i have only one comment on this matter-- Flight 93.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 11:04am



**Tammy DelMedico Ellison** I live in Gallipolis Oh and our employer has mandatory ALICE training. It was one of the best classes I have ever attended. Ours was not that dramatic but still worth going.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 11:03am



**Stephanie Warner Jones** I started following you by accident last year when there was the Newton shooting ( a friend had shared your page). I had spoken with my kids about the shooting and was both proud and upset when my then 11 year old said she would make sure the younger kids were safe. I had to tell her the adults would do that. Even though our schools have planned drills they have never done them. I wish they would

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 11:00am via mobile



**Amanda Borgio Zelezniak** We went through ALICE training and although I've never had cause to use it, thank goodness, I feel so much better for having that knowledge/skill set. I feel 100x more prepared and competent should a situation arise.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:58am via mobile



**Ed EF Fox** I see no issue with this what so ever. It is much more important to have kids be prepared for things like this. As someone who recently graduated high school, I am shocked that it is just now in the stages of becoming mandatory for ALICE training in schools. Everyone in my family has had ALICE training and it makes so much more sense than the old "sit and wait" method that children have been taught. I think it is of the utmost importance that not only the children receive this training, but the parents themselves so they can answer any questions their children may have.

I hope that this issue can be resolved as I think this is a matter of utmost importance and will help keep children safe and prepared for the worst. Here's hoping it never happens.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:59am · Edited



**Lou Jacques** I realize the gamble that it would be but just don't respond to the complainers. You just increase their power when you cancel something just because of a few whiners. If we stopped paying attention to them, maybe they'd shut up. I know, I'm a dreamer but we have to stop listening to them!

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:45am



**Nate Reaves** Helicopter parents

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:45am via mobile



**Wendy Dooney** Thank you! As a former school custodian, I always thought out and planned for the "worst". I had this "plan" if something happened on/during my shift. where do I take the wayward kids to, a safe place... and being a custodian, we have keys, lots of keys, some and most teachers have no clue where a locked door goes to... just saying. I applaud any and all efforts to do these drills, it truly is a 'be prepared' activity, not to scare. We did lockdown drills several times a yr. grades were pre-school thru 12. yes small school. Bless u all for awareness, as some minds think "it won't happen here" mentality...thank you

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:44am via mobile



**Angelo LaManna** Those same uninformed patents will insist your officers pull a Barnaby Jones, God forbid a real shooting happens in your jurisdiction, and shoot the active shooter in the leg. Some people will just never understand reality. Glad you're being proactive and training.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 10:41am via mobile



**Emma Simpson** Kids are a lot more resilient than some people think. Calmly explain what's going to happen and they'll be fine, would probably enjoy it. Over sensitive parents are the problem. Can't you give the parents the option on opting their kids out of the drill if they want? That way the majority will be able to do it

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:40am via mobile



**Jim Pelletier** These same parents who are complaining now would be screaming for your head on a platter because you "failed" to adequately protect/prepare their kids. Time for them to pull their heads out and get with the program.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:40am via mobile



**Sweitzer David** Just a question if you are a parent but do lot have a child in the field schools can you attend these

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:37am via mobile



**Susan Wellborn** hysteria first, facts later

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:30am



**Missy Lewis** Completely agree with the drills!! Thank you for helping to keep our children safe.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:28am via mobile



**Aimee Paugh** yes to this!

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:26am



**Erica Bunce** Once again, thank you for doing everything in your power to keep our kids safe. Whether it's patrolling the schools or preparing them for the worst.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:25am



**Brett Fowler** agree with the chief wholeheartedly.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:21am



**Colleen Shepherd Hudson** Sounds like a very informative proactive approach to an ongoing issue in schools today! Thanks for caring.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:19am



**Jeff Stull** Why dont we just train them to carry and use a fire arm. A bunch of armed and trained teachers would be no match. Post a sign at the school, our teachers are armed. Guess which ones.

Like · Reply · 2 · November 15 at 9:46am via mobile



**Cynthia Peck Strand** good grief. so thankful you do what you do - even tho I don't live in Brimfield, I wish I did.

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 10:28am



**John Baumgarten** It's a shame that this country has come to this, however i respect the effort your dept puts forth in protecting the community, to protect and serve are truely your guidelines Chief.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:20am



**Kelly Wells** This must be done.

Like · Reply · 2 · November 14 at 12:42pm via mobile



**Kelly Hall Bush** Those parents need to get a clue! They live in some bubble that is so far from reality! The schools at all levels need to be prepared and drills are a part of it. I wouldn't even tell anyone it was happening, just do it. Our district had an ALICE drill and we found out after.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 11:05am via mobile



**Sheryl Byers Roberts** As a parent, I would be happy to have these drills in my child's school. My elementary kids came home a few weeks ago talking about the drill they had and you could see how it helped them to feel more secure and more empowered, plus it helped to build the trust with their teachers. They KNOW their teachers are going to do whatever they can to protect them now. If parents are afraid of the drills, how would they feel if there was a situation in the school and their children and the staff was unprepared?

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:44am



**Diane Smith** You may want to edit this, Chief, because I suspect your email is doliver@brimfieldpolice.com

Just saying everybody needs an editor.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 10:19am



**Denise Dove** It took me a few minutes to see the 'i' was missing in police in the email address.

Like · 1 · November 14 at 10:49am



Write a reply...



**Charley H Cat** What kind of idiot does not want their child prepared for something like this. These are skills that can be used not just in the school, but some of it has to apply to malls, theaters, work place, etc.

Like · Reply · November 15 at 7:25pm



**Annette Holland-Shanafelt** Thnx chief. Well b there when all are ready.

Like · Reply · November 15 at 4:19pm via mobile



**Susie Terry** Preparation is the best skill to have in times of crisis. Muscle memory can take over faster than the brain can try to figure out what to do. Training the kids, with most of the possibilities, is the best way for them to be prepared. Imagine having to deal with something like a school shooting when all that you know is that there were kids that died in another school shooting. By them being 'armed' with knowledge about what they can do to not be like those kids is a positive thing. Presentation of training is something that these groups spent hours and hours on. They're not out to scare the hell out of kids but to prepare them. Really give it some thought. These professionals are more knowledgeable than most parents about the circumstances and preventative measures that can be put in place to protect your child.

Like · Reply · November 15 at 12:32pm



**Kim Werner Gourley** WOW I guess I've not heard of ALICE before. If you don't train the 'what to do' scenario, how do we learn? I did a SWAT Hostage training and as a victim, learned so much of what they do. I will forever be grateful for that experience, even tho the last 30 seconds scared about 10 years off my life, it was worth every minute. Parents just need to chill out. they can't be everywhere and I'd much rather my child know what to do IF than be scared to death and freeze up WHEN.

Like · Reply · November 15 at 8:51am



**Dan Wood** Chief.....did the "go" buckets get put into place yet at the schools? If not how can we all help to get them there and part of the safety precautions.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 10:54pm via mobile



**Susie Wade** So you would rather have your children unprepared for a real scary situation which could cost them injury or death. How sad for children who are so sheltered that they are unprepared for life. This is a form of mental child abuse.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 7:46pm via mobile



**Jeff Conard** ALICE is a great idea. I have been to a meeting and was instructed on how it works. It makes sense. Good luck with the program Chief.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 7:25pm via mobile



**Kendrick Ertley** Chief I want to thank You for being pro active in the schools. This would make a Great training and I wish you were teaching in when i was in school. If i can do anything to help you let me know.....

Like · Reply · November 14 at 5:51pm



**Mary Wild** Attitude and competence can teach children not to fear. Years ago we had foster children prepared for tocillectomies. We instilled confidence in them for the hospital staff. The knowledge that their throats would hurt afterward. That they would get ice cream and popsicles for the pain. That it would prevent the sore throats theyd been getting for so long. All was calm at the hospital, we were playing games waiting for the nurse. Then, in walks the parents, crying, wringing hands, acting terrified and worried sick. Kids left for surgery terrified. They didnt cooperate well with after care. Such a shame! There are good reasons to let competant, informed adults train children for a possible rough situation. Then intent is to protect, not scare. To be honest, but not make them feel helpless. You do that. Some parents will never understand that.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 5:43pm via mobile · Edited



**Tricia Greathouse** Thanks chief!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 2:43pm via mobile



**Jessie Lane** Mogadore and Ravenna have already had ALICE drills, Field needs to get on board, who wants any child to be a sitting duck for someone with a gun!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 2:39pm via mobile



**Timothy Kidd** Understood context is much better the knee jerked comments and reactions.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 2:23pm via mobile



**Valerie Chaney** We are already implementing ALICE training in Streetsboro. At the elementary level the kids are doing great. It has definitely been presented age appropriately.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 2:18pm via mobile



**Michele Riley Allen** Years ago, I think in 07 our high school had this kind of drill. It included drama students as victims, our local police, state police, fire company, ambulance, local hospital, comm center and parents. We found it to be a very useful tool. How to attend to the wounded, how much could our tiny community hospital handle, how to handle panicking parents trying to get to their children, controlling access to the school grounds. We learned a lot that day and hopefully we will never have to put it in place.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 2:15pm via mobile



**Kristin Byrne** I am a teacher elsewhere and we are also working on transitioning to ALICE in our school if possible. The ALICE program would be much more effective than the "shelter in place" lockdowns that are in effect now. Doing a drill with realistic elements will help the kids from losing their heads if anything were to happen. Obviously, we hope it never will, and we

always think it will never happen to us, but when an innocent teacher was murdered in my home town a few weeks ago after school that "not here" mentality changed real quick. Bravo chief for taking the initiative to keep your school's children safe.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 2:05pm via mobile



**Ann McKillips Harrell** Kudos to you for trying to prepare teachers and students!!!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 1:47pm



**John Visone** Being a CT resident I will tell you Drill's for this type of situation is important, we recently had a situation where a student on a college campus decided to wear his ninja costume for Halloween 4 days after the holiday carrying a sword and toy gun that looked real and we had an all out response of Law Enforcement, one of the complaints is the college never ran a drill and people/students didn't know what to do when they heard the alarm, most didn't even know what the alarm meant. Although many students did say when they were in high school they did drill. The Chief is right we live in a different world we lived through Sandy Hook here in CT, and the sad truth is no matter how many think it will, no gun law in the world will stop this from happening again, and unfortunately some of the laws on the books actually make it easier for crazies to attack the defenseless. If there is a will there is a way and drilling will help students understand what needs to be done if... you don't want to try to educate when... because then it is to late... I apologize for this long rant but i am passionate about this subject and being prepared for the worse and hope for the best. I think this is an awesome plan the chief has in making a realistic drill, people need to stop panicking about people who lawfully carry weapons, those are not the bad guys the crazies who want to harm are. In addition to this people need to have some commonsense that the chief would not run a scenario in such a way to cause potential injury. A blank gun is just that, a noise maker to add some reality to the situation, ads minor stress to the situation and for high school students they can deal with it. I have full faith in the Chief and his staff in to run age appropriate training for each school in his town. End of rant!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 1:02pm



**Sandy Pintaric** Good for you, Chief!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 12:22pm



**Shannon Murphy Martin** Great job in your presentation to your citizens!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 12:11pm via mobile



**Marcia Bates** I commend you and your department for your diligence in keeping your community safe from this crazy world we live in!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 11:18am via mobile



**Zonna Fenn** Amen!!! You go Chief!!!!!!

Like · Reply · November 14 at 11:18am



**Eleanor Hough** As an aside, I was in my grandson's elementary school recently and was shocked to see that the doors to all the classrooms had locks on the OUTSIDE of the door!?! The only defense I can see is that the doors on the exterior are kept locked during the school year. (But you can ring the bell and the door is released. ??)

Like · Reply · November 14 at 10:47am



**Sharon Neff Myers** Perfectly said Chief

Like · Reply · November 14 at 10:45am via mobile



**Eleanor Hough** While I absolutely deplore the reason for these drills, I understand and appreciate why they should be done. Hush up, you moronic parents and let your children learn to keep themselves safe.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 10:44am



**Kristina Albrecht** I agree we need to implement a program in the schools, is ALICE the only program available?

Like · Reply · November 14 at 10:32am via mobile



**Steve Lorinck** Parents get over it the world is getting very careless n if the chief of police wants to shoot a starting gun in the halls as a drill then learn the ways

Like · Reply · November 14 at 11:48am via mobile



**Holly Atkinson Moore** I can remember doing air raid drills as a kid in NJ in the 70s.

Like · Reply · November 14 at 2:35pm via mobile



**Michelle Loglisci** Really? Parents need to think and not be so reactionary. Wouldn't you rather have your students trained than not? How short the memory of last December. Parents of Brimfield OH, go to the meeting and learn, before you have a panic attack.

Like · Reply · 1 · November 14 at 1:51pm via mobile