

Dear Cunniff Parents and Guardians,

The Fun Run that took place on Friday was a huge success. Students were looking forward to this event for weeks. Without a doubt, it was all that they expected it to be and more. Special thanks to Lee Haley, Milton Contreras, Mike Tempesta and all the parents, faculty and staff that participated, contributed and cheered the runners on!

On Friday, October 26th, we will be practicing a combined drill that includes a lockdown followed by an evacuation. The Watertown Police Department will be assisting us with this drill. We will begin this drill at 1:00pm and end at approximately 2:15 pm. The first part focuses on the A.L.I.C.E. (*Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate*) drill. Students and faculty will be responding to a series of three scenarios that involve an intruder in the building. Upon hearing each scenario over the intercom, teachers and students will make decisions regarding available options to barricade or evacuate. The second part of the drill is the evacuation to our secondary site that is located at 100 Warren Street. Teachers and students will be instructed to evacuate the building and they will walk to this location. Once we have all arrived at 100 Warren Street, attendance will be taken and we will return to Cunniff.

In preparation for this drill, I have attached a School Safety Social Story. Teachers will be using this social story at school to help prepare students and I encourage families to use this at home as well [School Safety Social Story](#). Additionally, I will be hosting a Principal's Coffee on Friday morning (October 19th), right after drop off. It will take place in the cafe. During this time, I will be available to answer any questions parents/guardians may have about this drill. If you cannot attend, please email me with any questions you might have.

For parents of students in grades 3,4 and 5 who took MCAS last spring, you will receive your child's MCAS scores in the mail this week. The format of this report will help parents and guardians understand the scaling and context of the results.

As it gets colder, a reminder to please encourage children to dress for the weather. Teachers will be taking students out for recess daily.

Enjoy the week ahead!

With warm regards,

Mena Ciarlone, Cunniff Principal