

Subject: Lockdown Drill Completed Today

Dear ÉJCS Families,

We wanted to let you know that our school successfully completed a Lockdown Drill today, and it went very well.

Students did an excellent job following directions and responding calmly. This was due in large part to the thoughtful, age-appropriate preparation provided by staff. Teachers took time to explain the purpose of the drill and what students could expect, helping them feel safe and supported throughout the process.

Lockdown drills are a required part of our school safety planning and are conducted in alignment with our Administrative Procedure on Lockdowns. Practicing these procedures helps ensure that students and staff know what to do in the unlikely event of an emergency and allows us to continually review and strengthen our safety practices.

As part of today's drill:

- Doors were secured.
- Staff accounted for all students and adults in the building.
- Additional supports were provided for students who needed them, ensuring all learners felt comfortable and cared for.

If your child talks about the drill at home, we have included some kid friendly language for you to use at home with them.

Children may process drills differently, and that's okay. If your child has questions or worries, reassurance and simple explanations are often the most helpful.

We are proud of how well students handled the drill and appreciative of the care and professionalism shown by our staff.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss our safety procedures further, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jolene Becker and Corre Mahan

## Kid-Friendly Language for Lockdown Drills

### “Why do we do lockdown drills?”

- “We practice so everyone knows what to do to stay safe, just like we practice fire drills.”
- “Practicing helps teachers and students feel ready, even though we hope we never need it.”
- “It’s part of how grown-ups take care of kids at school.”

### “Was there something wrong today?”

- “Nope! Nothing was wrong. Today was just practice.”
- “It was planned ahead of time, and everyone knew it was a drill.”
- “Just like a practice game — not the real thing.”

### “What should I do during a lockdown?”

- “You listen to your teacher and stay with your class.”
- “Your job is just to follow directions — the adults take care of the rest.”
- “Teachers practice this so they know exactly how to keep you safe.”

### “I felt a little scared.”

- “That’s okay — new things can feel a bit scary.”
- “Even when we practice, the adults are right there with you.”
- “Feeling nervous doesn’t mean you did anything wrong.”

### “Why were the doors locked?”

- “Locked doors help keep everyone inside safe.”

- “It’s one of the ways schools protect students.”
- “The adults check everything while you stay with your class.”

### “Could this happen at home?”

- “School drills are just for school buildings.”
- “At home, your grown-ups have their own ways to keep you safe.”
- “Different places have different safety plans.”

### “Did I do a good job?”

- “Yes — listening and staying calm is exactly what you’re supposed to do.”
- “Your teachers were proud of how you handled it.”
- “Practice helps everyone get better and more confident.”

### **Helpful Reminders for Adults**

Keep answers **short and calm**

Avoid adding “what-if” scenarios

Reassure children that **adults are prepared and responsible**

Let children guide how much they want to talk