

# TEACHER GUIDANCE AFTER A LOCKDOWN DRILL

In 2010, Dr. David Benke tackled a gunman at Deer Creek Middle School in Littleton, Colorado. A 35 year veteran teacher, Dr. Benke offers his conversation with students after a Lockdown Drill. This is provided as guidance for a conversation with students.

## TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT THE SRP

There is a great deal of variation between elementary and high school. Elementary Students are much more willing to do what they are told. High school students always think they know better than adults. Perhaps with high school students our best goal is compliance rather than agreement.

## BEFORE THE DRILL

This is important to insure that the drill is done well. Use the wall poster to get the conversation started.

Emphasize that the rules; no phones, silence, lights out, out of sight, locked doors, are all absolutes. Talking, poking each other, texting, will all result in a trip to administration and a requirement to redo the drill during lunch or after school until it is done perfectly.

## THIS IS SERIOUS.

You are drilling to save lives. A phrase I found useful is, "I'm

trying to keep you safe. I am not going to apologize for trying to save you.

Be sure the students know someone may come by to try the door. They are to maintain silence.

## SAFE ZONE

Point out where the students are to sit and hide. Be sure to find an area that is not visible from a hall win-