Move-Secure-Defend – Quick Reference

The Move-Secure-Defend model describes protective actions taken by teachers and staff (school stakeholders) to keep students safe while executing a Lockdown protocol. The Move-Secure-Defend model is an options-based approach. Teachers and staff are entrusted to act in the safest manner for themselves and their students. They are authorized to adapt based on situational awareness (active awareness). Situational Awareness is the use of your senses – stop, look, listen, smell, and feel, in order to gather information and then act as warranted (informed decisions).

**Move:** Move away from danger to a place of safety using intentional movements.

- Have a specific safe location as the goal of your movement.
- Move with intention and purpose from transition point to transition point (e.g., classroom to doorway, doorway to hall intersection, etc.).
- Stop at each transition point and reassess – proceed if reasonable, adapt if necessary. Safety, not speed, is the goal.

**Secure:** Secure spaces quickly and completely with an emphasis on preventing entry.

*Note: securing your space generally is the safest option.*

- School staff will secure classrooms by locking the door and may include barricading the entrance.
- Once secured, occupants of the room may be moved to designated safe areas in the room away from views from interior hallways and windows.
- Occupants of a classroom should look for cover (preferred) or concealment. Cover is being behind something that can stop bullets. In addition to concealing you, it provides protection from being shot. Concealment is being behind something that prevents a bad guy from seeing you but won’t stop bullets. You can’t be seen, but you are still vulnerable.
- Close interior window coverings, if practicable and safe.
- If in a common space move to available securable space and secure it.
- If securable space is not readily available, move with students out of the building to the predesignated off-site location.
- If outside the building, at the initiation of a lockdown, move to the predetermined offsite location.
- Do not open secured doors until it is opened by responders or the designated all clear signal has been given.

**Defend:** Defend aggressively as your life may depend on it. Defense should be the last available option, but once started incapacitation of the shooter is the goal. Use pre-planned or improvised weapons to assist in the defense of yourself or others, e.g., a bat, golf club, fire extinguisher, etc.