

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Dave Phalen, Sheriff



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-Law Enforcement to Conduct Drill at Lancaster High School

[Lancaster, Ohio, November 22, 2013] The Lancaster City School District, in cooperation with the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office and Lancaster Police Department, will be conducting an "armed subject on school grounds" drill at Lancaster High School on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 around 12:30 p.m.

The drill will involve closing off city streets surrounding the high school and the building will be in lockdown during the drill. Students will not be allowed to leave the building and visitors will not be allowed to enter the building or parking lots. All phone calls to the high school will be redirected to the school district office.

The drill has been designed to depict an actual emergency situation. Although it may be difficult or even impossible to prevent these random acts of violence, well-planned emergency procedures can most certainly keep violence at bay until law enforcement takes control of the situation. Time is a crucial factor in most emergency situations and putting the "right people" in front of the problem, as quickly as possible, often reduces the amount of damage done.

School administrators and the other participating agencies have reviewed the scenario from start to finish through a table-talk discussion. The active simulation of the scenario involves more than 1,600 students and staff. It is unfortunate that we live in a world where we need to practice our responses to violent acts. However, we can prepare ourselves by communicating and reviewing our procedures.

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