Charleston County School District Families,

Our district is adopting a new safety response program known as the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) that will go into effect Tuesday, January 21, 2020. The SRP is a response framework that provides clear, consistent language and response actions for all staff, students, and first responders. The SRP is a program made available to school districts by The "I Love U Guys" Foundation and has been adopted by more than 100,000 schools.

Previously, CCSD used color codes to indicate emergency lockdown (Code Red), administrative lockdown (Code Yellow), or bomb threat evacuation (Code Green). The SRP eliminates the need to interpret codes by using plain language that can be quickly understood and put into action during an emergency.

The five different response protocols in the SRP are:

- Lockout - Get inside. Lock outside doors. (Called when there is a threat or hazard outside of the school building)
- Lockdown - Locks, lights, out of sight. (Called when there is a serious threat inside or immediately outside the building)
- Evacuate - To the announced location. (This is used when there is a need to move students from one location to another, away from danger)
- Shelter - Hazard and safety strategy. (Called when the need for personal protection is necessary, such as during a tornado or earthquake)
- Hold – In your classroom, clear the halls. (There may be situations which require students to stay in their classroom)

District staff members have received training on this new protocol over the past several weeks, but the plain language and clear instructions will make it easy to understand even for those who have not been through training, such as campus visitors. The SRP does not change our current response procedures; it merely enhances them by adopting clear, consistent language used to initiate a particular response.

If you have questions about this change, we encourage you to send an email to security@charleston.k12.sc.us. You can also learn more about the SRP on the district website at ccsdschools.com/SRP.

Thank you for your partnership in maintaining a safe learning environment for our students and staff members.

Sincerely,

Michael Reidenbach
Director of Security and Emergency Management

Office of Security and Emergency Management
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Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Jeffrey Borowy
Chief Operating Officer