

*Reach for the Heights – "Verso l'alto!"*  
– Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati



Mundelein Campus

22277 Erhart Rd.  
Mundelein, IL 60060  
(847) 223-4021

Wauconda Campus

316 W. Mill St.  
Wauconda, IL 60084  
(847) 487-5600

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Communication between school and home has never been more important -- for weather notification, emergency alerts or other general announcements.

Frassati Catholic Academy has implemented the School Messenger broadcast system for its preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> grade at both campuses which enables school personnel to notify all households and parents by phone, email and text within minutes of an emergency, inclement weather or unplanned event.

This notification service is provided by School Messenger, a company specializing in school-to-home communications. The service has the flexibility to provide voice, text and email messages based upon the contact information we have on file for your student.

Frassati Catholic Academy will also continue to report school closings due to snow or weather on the Emergency Closing Center, as well as on our website and social media sites. General school announcements and information can be found in our Virtual Backpack, sent via email and/or posted on our social media websites and sent via text through the REMIND APP, as well.

In an effort to ensure you receive these communications, please make sure the school campus offices have updated contact information on file. This includes: parent email addresses, home and cell phone numbers. Please be sure to check us out on Facebook – LIKE our page and/or JOIN our group, bookmark our Virtual Backpack on our school website and refer back to our school calendar located on our website as well.

Frassati Catholic Academy will provide the following communications to parents:

Email:

- Monthly/quarterly - Newsletter to include classroom highlights, snap shot of week and upcoming events, as well as principal notes
- Medical Alerts which include notification on classroom cases of strep throat, lice, etc.
- Periodic reminders regarding upcoming school events, i.e. picture day reminder
- Other correspondence from the school office

Teacher Communication

- Notes from Room Parents and teachers regarding upcoming class and campus events and parties will be distributed through the classroom and/or via teacher websites



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Website – [www.frassaticatholicacademy.org](http://www.frassaticatholicacademy.org)

- Our school website will serve as the catalyst for recruiting prospective families: content on our website will remain predominantly static, providing useful tools, materials and content for those families discovering our school
- Our school website will also include a few interactive outlets for current families located specifically under QUICK LINKS on the homepage. These QUICK LINKS include: Virtual Backpack, Teacher Websites, Hot Lunch sign up, PowerSchool access, Volunteer opportunities, Teacher and Staff Contacts, FACTS, School Calendar and more. Please refer back to our website frequently to assist you in finding the information needed throughout the year
- Updated school calendar – including both campus affiliated activities & events, clubs, meetings and athletic events
- School, parish and community flyers, updates, information and happenings uploaded to the Virtual Backpack on our website – [www.frassaticatholicacademy.org](http://www.frassaticatholicacademy.org)

**Virtual Backpack**

- Our Virtual Backpack will serve as a go-to spot for flyers and information distributed to school families in the below listed areas.
  - All information must be approved prior to distribution, please email PDF to [tkleckner@frassaticatholicacademy.org](mailto:tkleckner@frassaticatholicacademy.org)
- Frassati Family Association (FFA) flyers and information regarding upcoming class and campus events and parties
- School, parish and community flyers, updates, information and happenings

**Social Media**

- Social Media's primary goal is to market our school: weekly highlights of classroom and school programs, activities, lessons and projects will highlight academic and program success
- Social Media sites will be used to communicate a variety of events, updates, information and happenings at our school campuses but should not be used as the only means to verify most up-to-date information, please refer to website and emails

**Phone/text:**

- School closing due to weather or other circumstance
- School lockdown information
- REMIND APP will be used to remind parents/families of periodic events, due dates, events, calendar updates, etc.

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In the event of a threat, active shooter or intruder, the school will notify parents via text or voice message. Please DO NOT call the school or attempt to reach out to your child(ren). Please know that we will work with law enforcement to do everything possible to keep our students and staff safe. We need to keep phone lines open, so that law enforcement can reach us if needed.

**Soft lockdown:** all doors are locked and students are kept inside. Visitors are not allowed into building.

**Hard lockdown:** all doors are locked and students are kept inside and in classrooms. No one is allowed in the building. School (and parish office phone at the Wauconda Campus) will not be answered. We must remain focused on keeping everyone safe. Please do not contact students or staff on their cell phones, cell phones should be off during a hard lockdown. Dismissal procedures may be delayed or altered; parents will be notified via text, email and the school website about any changes.

**Active Shooter or Intruder:** training will be provided to all faculty, staff and students to execute ALICE. ALICE stands for alert, lockdown, inform, counter and evacuate. ALICE training provides preparation and a plan for individuals and organizations on how to more proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event based on individual and varying circumstances.

It is important that you notify the school office of any changes in your email or phone numbers. Please send an email to the school campus offices providing your new information. This facilitates alerting teachers and staff of the changes.

**Eagles Nest Directory:** In an effort to stay connected to our greater Frassati family, we have invited all of our families to share their email address and phone number to connect with one another throughout the year. This directory will only be distributed to our school families and will not be made public or posted to our website.

**Calendar:** A paper copy of our school calendar including important dates, events, activities and more is provided at the start the school year. An electronic version of this calendar can be found on our website at [www.frassaticatholicacademy.org](http://www.frassaticatholicacademy.org) located on the homepage under **QUICK LINKS - Calendar** or under the PARENTS drop down tab located at the top of the page. A micro version of the calendar can also be found toward the bottom of the homepage. *ALL Calendar formats are tentative and subject to change.* Please contact our Campus Offices to confirm any calendaring information you may have questions in regards to.

Please contact Tammy Kleckner, Principal, with any questions or concerns regarding our communication efforts throughout the year. [tkleckner@frassaticatholicacademy.org](mailto:tkleckner@frassaticatholicacademy.org)



## What is ALICE Training Institute?

ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Training provides preparation and a plan for individuals and organizations on how to more proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event. ALICE Training option-based tactics have become the accepted response, versus the traditional "lockdown only" approach.

## Why the ALICE program?

ALICE Training is the pioneer in active shooter preparation training in our country. We are the first program to question the reasonableness of "lockdown-only" policies and training. Because we were first, we have the most experience, the credibility and the most support for implementation of our program.

## Why change the lockdown only policy?

There is a new standard which emphasizes the need for pro-active, options-based, strategies. The federal and state government recommendations, as well as, major law enforcement associations support these strategies. ALICE Training is the model upon which these official recommendations were built. We must come to the realization that a violent intruder event can happen any time, any place and for any reason.

## How will students be trained?

We recommend that all student training be age-appropriate with their teacher leading the training. This includes using the ALICE Training children's book, "I'm not Scared... I'm Prepared" and the associated classroom workbook for teachers.

## What is the difference between 'Fight' and 'Counter'?

ALICE Training does not teach fighting skills. "Fighting" skills take a lot of time and practice to become proficient and retain the skills. ALICE Training teaches the skills needed to "Counter" an attacker's ability to shoot accurately. We teach the use of noise, movement, distance, and distractions to make shooting accurately very difficult, and if appropriate, teach a swarm technique to take back control as a last resort. All recommendations and training are conducted at age and ability appropriate levels.

## Isn't this the job of Law Enforcement?

Law Enforcement is on their way, but time is not on their side. We must learn to help ourselves before they arrive. Just as the fire department equips us with fire extinguishers and sprinkler systems, and EMS trains us in using AED for heart attacks, the law enforcement community is training us in our response options to be used before they are able to arrive.