What is a lockdown?

A lockdown is when a school takes extra steps to be safe. Sometimes there are lockdowns when the school is being searched, like when the drug dogs are in the school looking for drugs.

Sometimes there are lockdowns when there is a dangerous or unsafe situation in the community, like if a bank has been robbed or a crime has happened down the road.

Sometimes there are lockdowns if an unsafe person has been seen in or around the building. The school staff, teachers, and principals want to keep students safe.

The principal will say something over the intercom to let the teachers know that the doors are to be locked. Students have to stay in the room, stay quiet, and stay until they are released.

Students need to try to follow directions to stay safe. They should not open the door or let anyone into the classroom. It is good to stay quiet and calm. It may help to read, draw, or think about happy thoughts. It is important not to repeat scary thoughts and fears out loud because it may make other people afraid and nervous.

When it is safe, the principal or adult in charge will let the teachers know that the school is "all clear."

Sometimes, there are lockdown drills to practice being safe. It is important to practice and follow the rules.

To learn school rules for lockdown drills, speak privately with your teacher.