The Armed Intruder: How will you Respond?

Everett Public Schools School Safety and Emergency Preparedness March 20, 2015

School Shootings

- Active shooter incidents are considered rare but are on the rise
- There is no profile of a school shooter
- **∞**It can and does happen ANYWHERE
 - Public, private, urban and rural schools
 - The biggest mistake is to assume it won't happen here
- In the past couple of years shootings have occurred in Portland, Seattle, and Marysville
- >>> We need to be prepared as a school and personally

School Staff Response

- »Prepare for the unthinkable
- Make a plan and be ready to act on it
- Very little innovative thinking occurs under stressful conditions
- Remain calm; students will be watching you and will respond in the same manner as you do
- > Know your schools plans, and reunification sites
- >> You will get through this

Am I prepared?

- Are you prepared personally?
 - Does your family know what to do if you are delayed at school for hours?
 - Do you have alternatives for a way home, childcare, etc.?
 - Do you have personal emergency supplies or know where the school stores theirs?

If it happens

RUN HIDE FIGHT

RUN

- »If you are inside the building and can leave, do it
- ➣If you are outside the building, stay outside and move away from the building
- Call 911 and provide as much information as possible, don't assume someone else has called

HIDE

- »Secure your classrooms and offices
- If possible move desks and furniture in front of the door
- »If you have a door wedge use it
- Move students away from the door and windows
- Call 911, don't assume someone else has called
- Once the door is closed don't open it until it is confirmed to be a rescue team

FIGHT

- If you have no other option, take action against the shooter
 - This is more likely at a high school or university
- Your actions will have to be ferocious and intended to incapacitate the shooter

Police Response

- >> With your response to the shooter you are buying SECONDS, not minutes
- ▶ Police tactics have changed since 1999
 - Every officer, detective and administrator is coming to your school from all over the area
- **©**Officers will not wait for SWAT
- **∞**Officers will be trying to find the shooter
 - We will not stop to aid students or downed officers until that is accomplished

CONCLUSION

- »Put the risk in perspective
- > Know that it COULD happen
- Police Officers and Deputies will work with our heart and soul to prevent it from happening