

## **School Safety and DD/Autism**

### **Pre-planning**

- (a) Organize a group made up of school personnel (both teachers, custodians, bus drivers, crossing guards, etc.) and local and state law enforcement agencies, fire/rescue/EMS, mental health and medical professionals and parents.
- (b) Have the appropriate law enforcement agency conduct a site survey to ID both area hazards and potential lock down “safe zones” and also to see if there are any preventative measures that can be taken- metal detectors, etc.
- (c) Perform a needs assessment including conducting a safety survey for all school staff to complete regarding their safety/security concerns.
- (d) Ensure you have an effective alert process and that you have reliable communication capabilities- cell phones and/or hand held radios and a back up system.
- (e) Write an emergency manual to include the protocols for lockdown scenarios, evacuations, etc., maps of lockdown areas and the school buildings.
- (f) Contact numbers for local emergency responders, crisis workers, etc.
- (g) Inform all staff and parents about the plan.
- (h) Conduct regular drills and continually evaluate and critique plan.
- (i) Invite likely first responders- police/fire/EMS to the school on a regular basis to get to know the students and become familiar with them and the building.

# “Go Kits”

Assemble Kit for each classroom.

## Contents:

1. Headsets
2. Sensory Toys
3. Other sensory items- gum, etc.
4. Snacks
5. Social Stories
6. Medical needs list