Dear Teacher,

This is your Code Red Comfort Pack. It is for you to grab in the event a Code Red Lockdown is issued. Inside you will find items that will hopefully provide some comfort to students in the event you are under a Lockdown for an extended length of time.

Below is the story of how the Code Red Comfort Pack came to be. We hope you never have to use them, but in the event one is issued you will have items to assist you to keep the students calm.

Background story on your Code Red Comfort Pack:

One Mother, Christina Powell, had the most memorable end of the year party in a First Grade class. While scooping out ice cream for 18 excited seven year olds, a Code Red alarm went off. With calmness and quickness their teacher guided 18 children and three adults into a small bathroom. Before following the last child in, she grabbed her purse, which fortunately had a cell phone.

The children knew exactly what to do and handled it well for a time. They sat in the dark and in silence, with the occasional seven year old silliness. Time passed on and they waited for the code red to be lifted. The children started to get anxious and honestly, so did she.

She was able to get cell service and find out that it wasn’t a practice drill; they were REALLY under a Code Red. The police had set up a perimeter, and the authorities were actively looking for a threat. The longer they sat the more the children started to get scared. They hugged each other, held hands for comfort, and some even had upset stomachs.

Fortunately, it was just a threat. After leaving, Christina couldn’t help but think what could she do to help other teachers in the event it (hopefully NEVER) happens again. And so the Code Red Comfort Pack was formed.

Inside you will find:

**Ready to Go File**:

* **Teacher Contact List**- Cell and Email for teachers’ next door/floor, and specials. Texting your classroom neighbor (or parent stuck in bathroom down the hall) to gather information was helpful. Also if you have a child in transit when the alarm goes off and they are directed to Art. The Art Teacher could text you they are safe and not still walking around.
* **Class Contact List** - parent cell and email

**Hand Sanitizer**

**First Aid Kit**

**Scissors** (one teacher grabbed for protection, and thought it was smart)

**Lysol** (upset tummies in close quarters or pseudo pepper spray)

**Flashlight**

**Glow Bracelets**

**Dry Erase Board** (to communicate in silence with the students)

**Phone power battery charger** (currently charged, but you will need to charge it periodically so it is full capacity in case it is needed. I also wasn’t sure what phone you had, so you will need to get a cable to connect to your phone.) Don’t forget to grab your phone before heading into your designated lockdown spot.

**Tootsie Pops** – help keep little mouths quiet and busy for a little while

**Stuffed Animal/Stress Balls** – to provide snuggles to little ones who might be nervous

Once the Code Red was lifted, they were able to get back to the party. The ice cream was melted, but the kids shook it off and had fun regardless. It is our hope that the Code Red Comfort Pack will sit in a corner and collect dust and we will never experience a Code Red again.

Thank you for not only teaching our children, setting fantastic role models, but also keeping them safe and calm.

Thank you