

SAFETY PROGRAM

The District will make efforts to provide for the safety of all students, employees and members of the school community present on District property and at District-sponsored events at other sites. The Board directs the administration to develop a safety program, which is reviewed on an annual basis, and directs the administration to implement strategies for disseminating information regarding the safety program to students, staff, parents/guardians and the public.

The Chief Operations Officer has responsibility for the safety program of the District and the development of written procedures to comply with the Public Employment Risk Reduction Act (PERRA) regulations and policies, Revised Code Section 3313.534 Zero Tolerance Policy requirements, Revised Code Section 3313.536 Individual Building Safety Plan requirements and all other statutory requirements.

The practice of safety is a part of the instructional plan of the District through educational programs. The educational program includes instruction in traffic and pedestrian safety, driver education, fire prevention, in-service training and emergency procedures with appropriate subject content and instructional methods for students at different grade levels. In-service training will include training on the District's Safety program, including emergency response, crisis management, and individual building safety plans.

Emergency Plans

Emergency plans shall be included as part of the District's Safety Program and shall be used by personnel and students in case of fire, civil emergencies and natural disasters. Emergency telephone numbers shall be posted by District telephones. Emergency procedures shall be posted in each classroom and other areas accessible to students and school personnel. Drills shall provide both students and staff with practice in responding to emergency conditions should such conditions occur.

In addition, the District Safety program shall develop an emergency "hot-line" providing a telephone number to call for assistance and emergency information. The number should be posted and be one that can be easily be memorized or called to mind (e.g., 777-SAFE).

Crisis Management

To prepare for possible crisis situations, the District shall create a formal standing crisis response team, trained to immediately respond to and manage the crisis upon notice of the situation. This shall be done as part of the District's safety plan.

Persons to be considered for membership on the crisis response team may include the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operations Officer, Chief Legal Counsel, Chief Communications Officer, and appropriate external authorities such as police, fire, medical and mental health personnel.

Buildings and Grounds Security

Security includes maintenance of a secure building, protection from fire hazards, faulty equipment and unsafe practices in the use of electrical, plumbing and heating equipment. The Chief Operations Officer and Executive Director of Operations shall authorize examinations of the environmental conditions and operations of each District building to determine potential hazards to student and personnel safety and shall propose operating changes to promote the prevention of potentially dangerous problems and circumstances in the buildings. The Chief Operations Officer, Executive Director of Operations and the Board shall cooperate with local police and fire departments, parents, teachers, non-teaching personnel, and insurance company inspectors.

Access to buildings and grounds outside of regular school hours is limited to District personnel whose work requires such access.

In addition to the District-wide Safety Program, the District shall adopt individual safety plans for each building in active use by the District, as such plans are completed.

The safety plans for each building shall incorporate the following:

1. A protocol for addressing serious threats to the safety of school property, students, employees, or administrators; and
2. A protocol for responding to any emergency events that do actually occur that compromise the safety of school property, students, employees, or administrators.

[NOTE: Under 3313.536 Each building must have a school safety plan.]

[Adoption date: February 1, 2001]

LEGAL REFERENCES

OAC 1301-7-7-07

OAC 3301-35-03

3301-35-03(D)(4-7)

ORC 2744

ORC 3313.20; 3313.534; 3313.536; 3313.60; 3313.643

3737.99

Public Employment Risk Reduction Act, ORC 4167.01 et seq.

CROSS REFERENCES

EEAC, School Bus Safety Program

GBE, Staff Health and Safety

IGAE, Health Education

JHF, Student Safety

Emergency Plans Handbook