

Policy Guide

Policy No. 805Section OPERATIONSTitle EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSEAdopted AUGUST 21, 1989Last Revised MAY 21, 2024

POLICY NO. 805 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE		
Section 1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>The Board recognizes its responsibility for the safety of students, staff, visitors and facilities. Therefore, the Board shall provide facilities, equipment and training necessary to protect against hazards and emergencies, including but not limited to natural disasters, hazardous chemicals, fires, weapons, bomb threats, intruders, terrorism, communicable diseases and pandemics. Advance planning, training, practice and comprehensive implementation are key components in protecting the safety and security of the school community.</p>	Pol. 705
Section 2	<p><u>Authority</u></p> <p>The District, in cooperation with the county Emergency Management Agency and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), shall develop and implement a comprehensive disaster response and emergency preparedness plan, consistent with the guidelines developed by PEMA and other applicable state requirements.</p> <p>The Board shall also utilize the resources of and comply with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and local law enforcement agencies.</p> <p>The Board requires that emergency preparedness, emergency evacuation and school security drills be conducted at intervals required by state law.</p>	<p>22 PA Code 10.24 35 Pa. C.S.A. 7701</p> <p>Pol. 805.1</p> <p>35 Pa. C.S.A. 7701 SC 1517, 1518</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 805 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE</p>		
Section 3	<p><u>Definitions</u></p> <p>School security drill – a planned exercise, other than a fire drill or natural disaster drill, designed to practice procedures to respond to an emergency situation that may include, but is not limited to, an act of terrorism, armed intruder situation or other violent threat.</p> <p>School Safety and Security Assessment – a strategic evaluation of a school entity’s facilities and programs used to identify potential safety and security threats.</p>	<p>SC 1517</p> <p>SC 1301-B</p>
Section 4	<p><u>Delegation of Responsibility</u></p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including persons in parental relation, students, staff, community agencies, local law enforcement agencies and first responders, during the development and implementation of the emergency preparedness plan.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall implement a communication system to notify persons in parental relation of the evacuation or sheltering of students and to alert the entire school community when necessary.</p> <p>Annually, on or before April 10, the Superintendent shall certify that emergency evacuation drills and school security drills have been conducted in the manner prescribed by law.</p> <p>In accordance with state law and regulations, the Superintendent shall execute a memorandum of understanding with each local police department that has jurisdiction over school property.</p> <p>The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to periodically complete a School Safety and Security Assessment in accordance with the provisions of law and established criteria, based on the needs of the District and availability of funding and resources.</p>	<p>SC 1517</p> <p>Pol. 805.1 SC 1303-A 22 PA Code 10.11</p> <p>SC 1301-B, 1303-B, 1314-B, 1315-B</p>

Section 5	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 805 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE</p>	
	<p><u>Guidelines</u></p>	
	<p><u>Emergency Planning</u></p>	
	<p>The emergency preparedness plan shall be accessible in each district building, be reviewed at least annually, and be modified as necessary. A copy of the plan shall be made accessible to the county Emergency Management Agency, each local police department and each local fire department that have jurisdiction over school property. The District shall obtain assurances from each appropriate agency that the emergency preparedness plan will be safeguarded and maintained confidentially.</p>	<p>SC 1302.1-A 22 PA Code 10.24 35 Pa. C.S.A. 7701</p>
	<p>Appropriate information regarding the emergency preparedness plan shall be communicated to students, persons in parental relation, staff, the community and other relevant stakeholders.</p>	
	<p>Annually, by September 30, the District shall assemble information required to assist local police and fire departments in responding to an emergency. The required information shall be deployed immediately to the Incident Command Post in the event of an emergency incident or disaster.</p>	<p>22 PA Code 10.24 35 Pa. C.S.A. 7701 Pol. 805.1</p>
	<p>Schools and school buses or transportation vehicles owned or leased by the District shall be made available to local, county and state officials for emergency planning and exercises.</p>	<p>35 Pa. C.S.A. 7701</p>
	<p><u>Continuity of Student Learning/Core Operations</u></p>	
	<p>In the event of an emergency, local, county or state officials may require that schools be made available to serve as mass-care facilities. Local, county or state officials may also utilize district-owned buses and other transportation vehicles. The Superintendent or designee shall determine whether schools shall be closed, or the educational program suspended, to safeguard student and staff health and safety.</p>	<p>35 Pa. C.S.A. 7701 Pol. 804</p>
	<p>State officials may also direct schools to close in order to mitigate the spread of infection or illness in designated emergencies.</p>	<p>35 Pa. C.S.A. 7301 et seq</p>
	<p>The District shall make provisions in the emergency preparedness plan and any applicable health and safety plan for</p>	<p>SC 520.1, 1501, 1506</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 805 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE</p> <p>7. Identification or recognition of student behavior that may indicate a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, other individuals, school facilities, the community or the community. This training may be conducted in person or virtually.</p> <p>8. Any other training as required by state law.</p> <p>The required school safety and security training shall be credited toward professional education requirements, in accordance with law and the District's Professional Education Plan.</p> <p><u>Required Drills</u></p> <p><i>Emergency Preparedness Drill -</i></p> <p>The Board directs district schools to conduct a disaster response or emergency preparedness plan drill at least annually, in accordance with the provisions of law.</p> <p><i>Fire Drills -</i></p> <p>The Board directs each district school to conduct fire drills at least once a month during the school year, in accordance with the provisions of law.</p> <p><i>School Security Drills -</i></p> <p>The Board directs each district school to conduct a school security drill within ninety (90) days of the beginning of each school year. The school security drill shall be conducted while school is in session, with students present.</p> <p>The school security drill may take the place of a fire drill for the month in which it is conducted.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee may conduct additional school security drills in district schools after the first ninety (90) days of the school year. Up to two (2) additional school security drills per school year may be conducted in place of the required fire drills for the month in which they are conducted.</p>	<p>SC 1302-E Pol. 236.1</p> <p>SC 1205.2, 1310-B Pol. 833</p> <p>35 Pa. C.S.A. 7701</p> <p>SC 1517, 1518</p> <p>SC 1517</p> <p>SC 1517</p>
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