

STUDENT SAFETY

The schools shall take all steps possible to maintain the students' rights to attend schools which are safe, secure, and peaceful.

1. School crime, violence, gang, and drug traffic problems causing property damage or personal injury must be addressed at both the preventative and mitigative levels.
 - a. The principal shall follow all appropriate disciplinary procedures when dealing with students who have violated the safety of staff or students.
 - b. Appropriate law enforcement personnel shall be apprised of any suspected crimes that breach student or staff safety. School personnel will cooperate fully with law enforcement personnel during the course of any related investigations.
 - c. Appropriate preventative programs, activities, and curricula will be presented to students in an effort to help them avoid participation in activities that would endanger themselves or others. Such programs may be topic-specific such as drug and gang awareness. Others may address character development issues that will assist students to be prepared for making appropriate choices when faced with situations that would compromise student safety.
 - d. School officials will utilize community resources that are available to assist with preventative programs.
 - e. The schools will identify "at risk" students and determine specific actions that can be taken to assist those students to set and attain goals that will lead them to become productive members of society. (Students who are considered at risk are those who could fail academically or could be considered a potential danger to themselves or others.)
 - f. School-based staff are encouraged to look for any signs of bizarre student behavior and take appropriate action to ensure students displaying such behavior do not become a danger to themselves or others.
2. Measures will be taken to assure that school facilities are free of unsafe equipment or activities.
 - a. Procedures shall be developed that will allow for prompt reporting and repair of unsafe equipment or facilities.
 - b. Safety checks of all school sites will take place on a regular basis.

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- c. All school personnel will be trained in appropriate safety requirements that pertain to their specific jobs.
- d. All personnel will be apprised of the procedure for reporting unsafe conditions.
- e. Appropriate safety equipment shall be made available to students participating in classes which have a heightened risk of accident. Staff members shall ensure that students are properly trained in the use of such safety equipment.
- f. All staff members shall promptly report any unsafe activities involving students.

Bus Safety and Evacuation

During the first month of each semester, bus safety and evacuation instruction will be provided. A minimum of one instructional period devoted to bus safety will be presented to all students by the teaching staff. Following the classroom instruction, all students will participate in bus evacuation instruction and evacuation drills conducted by the Transportation Department.

Bicycle Safety

All students will be expected to wear an approved bicycle helmet whenever riding a bicycle to or from school or during any school-approved activity. Bicycles should be locked up in a designated area during school hours and should not be ridden on school grounds unless authorized by the administration. The principal may designate a minimum age or grade level that must be attained before a student can ride a bicycle to school. Safe riding practices should be incorporated into safety-related curricula and/or activities.