

Policy 8420 EMERGENCY EVACUATION

The Board of Education recognizes that its responsibility for the safety of pupils extends to possible natural and man-made disasters and that such emergencies are best met by preparedness and planning.

The Board authorizes the development and implementation of a plan for emergency preparedness that safeguards the health and well-being of pupils and staff, permits minimum disruption to the educational program, and helps pupils learn self-reliance and a prudent response to emergency situations. The plan shall provide that all threats to the safety of the schools are identified and promptly responded to by appropriate district personnel.

Annually, at the beginning of each school year, the principal will review with the school staff all emergency procedures as established in the district's Emergency Response Plan and Procedures Manual.

In the event of a bomb threat, the threatened school shall be evacuated immediately.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the handling of school emergencies that include

1. A plan for the prompt and safe evacuation of the schools;
2. The practice of such an evacuation plan twice monthly in the fire drills conducted in accordance with law;
3. The conduct of bus evacuation drills in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education;
4. Procedures for the safe dispersal of pupils from school property and, if necessary, a plan for the sequestration of pupils in a safe place other than school;
5. The design of a communications system to alert the whole school community when necessary and to notify parents of the evacuation of pupils;
6. Instruction in emergency preparedness and survival techniques as a part of the regular curriculum;
7. The immediate notification of appropriate administrative personnel whenever any employee becomes aware of an emergency or an impending emergency;
8. Cooperation with local agencies;
9. Instruction of staff members in decision-making and the techniques of handling emergencies;

10. The appointment of a school emergency procedures committee; and
11. The continuing evaluation of the effectiveness of emergency planning in preparing the schools to cope with disaster.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-3

N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6:21-11.3

Adopted: 11 June 1997