

Policy EBCB Safety Drills

Issued 10/21

The district is committed to providing a safe learning environment that supports academic achievement. School safety is a community issue that requires collaboration between the administration, emergency response agencies, parents/legal guardians, and the community.

The district will collaborate with state and local law enforcement, fire, and emergency management agencies.

The board directs the superintendent or his/her designee to implement plans and procedures in accordance with this policy.

Assessment

The district will conduct monthly assessments for each building/facility owned by the district. The director of operations or his/her designee is responsible for conducting the monthly assessments. Documentation will be maintained and made accessible to the fire code official during an inspection.

The monthly assessments should address the automatic fire sprinkler systems, fire detection and alarm systems, fire-rated assemblies, emergency lighting, emergency power supply system generators, portable fire extinguishers, emergency responder radio coverage, smoke and heat removal systems, and commercial kitchen requirements. The state *Model Fire and Safety Program Guidelines* will be followed when assessing each of these areas.

Inspections

The district will coordinate with the local fire department or fire code official responsible for code enforcement. The district will identify the entity that will be performing fire inspections for each facility and the frequency at which each facility will be inspected.

Evacuation Plans and Drills

The district will implement plans and conducts drills for evacuating or locking down facilities in emergency situations. Plans will include safety measures for indoor and outdoor assemblies, events, and gatherings (e.g. recess) detailing crowd management and security. Safety drills will be conducted throughout the school year in accordance with the state *Model Fire and Safety Program Guidelines*. District staff will fully cooperate to carry out all drills and will train students in prompt and orderly evacuation.

Fire drills

Schools will conduct, at a minimum, two (2) fire drills per year (one each semester). The first fire drill should occur within ten (10) days of the start of the school year.

Active shooter/intruder drills

Schools will conduct, at a minimum, two (2) active shooter/intruder drills each school year, one during each semester. The district will utilize a nationally recognized training method that will be conducted in a manner that is developmentally appropriate for all participants. All drills will be inclusive and necessary accommodations for participants with disabilities will be provided. To the extent possible, all school personnel will participate in active shooter/intruder drills. All personnel will receive active shooter/intruder and security training, at a minimum, twice per year.

Severe weather/earthquake drills

Schools will conduct, at a minimum, two (2) severe weather/earthquake drills each school year, one during each semester. Each drill will be conducted in accordance with guidelines developed by the SCDE.

Classroom and Hallway Safety

Staff members will be informed of restrictions regarding decorations and interior finishes, electrical safety, laboratories, entryways, and storage.

Construction and Renovation

Staff will refer to policies FA, *Facilities Development Goals and Priority Objectives*, and FB, *Facilities Planning*, when renovating and constructing buildings and campus access to ensure compliance with state standards and specifications. Maximum occupancy requirements will be followed at all times.

Adopted 3/23/87; Revised 6/23/97, 8/24/20, 10/25/21

Legal References:

S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

Section 59-17-160 - Model fire and safety policy and program guidelines; posting requirement.

Section 59-63-910, et seq. - Required public school drills.

S.C. State Board of Education Regulations:

R43-166 - Student and school safety; emergency and disaster plans.

Other References:

2020 Model Fire and Safety Program Guidelines.

Florence County School District No. 2