

3432: EMERGENCIES

Fire Drills

Students shall receive instruction so that in case of fire or sudden emergency they shall be able to leave their particular building in the shortest time possible, or take such other steps as the particular emergency demands, and without confusion or panic. Fire drills shall be held monthly.

The superintendent is directed to develop emergency evacuation procedures for each building.

Earthquakes

The board recognizes the importance of protecting staff, students and facilities in the event of an earthquake. Facilities shall be designed and maintained in a manner that recognizes the potential danger from such an occurrence. Likewise, staff must be prepared to take necessary action to protect students and staff from harm.

The superintendent shall establish guidelines and action taken by building principals should an earthquake occur while school is in session.

Bomb Threats

The superintendent shall establish procedures for action in the event that any threat is received toward the school by telephone, letter, orally or by other means.

Emergency School Closure or Evacuation

When weather conditions or other circumstances make it unsafe to operate schools the superintendent is directed to determine whether schools should be started late, closed for the day or transportation will be provided only on emergency routes. Those decisions will be communicated through community media resources pursuant to a plan developed by the superintendent or designee.

Pandemic/Epidemic

The board recognizes that a pandemic outbreak is a serious threat that could affect students, staff and the community. The superintendent or a designee shall serve as a liaison between the school district and local health officials. The district liaison, in consultation with local health officials, shall ensure that a pandemic/epidemic plan exists in the district and establish procedures to provide for staff and student safety during such an emergency.

When an emergency within a school or its surrounding area necessitates evacuation and/or total or partial closure of the schools within the district, staff shall be responsible for aiding in the safe evacuation of the students within the endangered school or its surrounding area. The superintendent shall establish procedures for the emergency closure of a building or department.

Legal References:	RCW 19.27.110	International Fire Code
Management Resources:	<i>Policy News</i> , Oct. 2006	Pandemic Flu Planning for School Districts
	<i>Policy News</i> , Feb. 1999	Fire drills required monthly

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