

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY PLANS

The Board acknowledges that the safety and well-being of the students and staff are high priorities. Although emergencies and disasters cannot be predicted, effective prevention and management strategies are used to minimize the effects of emergency situations arising in the District.

An emergency is defined as an event that threatens the actual safety and security of students, employees or visitors of the District or whose impact threatens the feeling of safety and security, both of which are detrimental to a positive learning environment. Emergencies include, but are not limited to, fire, natural disasters, medical emergencies, industrial accidents, suicide, death of a student or employee, acts of violence, trauma and terrorism.

Comprehensive Emergency Management and School Safety Plans and Drills

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to prepare emergency/safety plans for use by staff and students. The plans are posted in each classroom and other areas accessible to staff and students.

The comprehensive emergency management plan sets a protocol for addressing and responding to serious threats to the safety of the school property, students, staff, volunteers and visitors. Each protocol includes procedures deemed appropriate by the Board or governing authority for responding to threats and emergency events including, but not limited to, notification of appropriate law enforcement personnel, calling upon specified emergency response personnel for assistance and informing parents of affected students.

State law determines the type and number of drills the District must conduct in order to adequately prepare staff and students for emergency situations. Drills provide both students and staff with practice in responding to emergency conditions should such conditions occur.

A copy of each school building's current comprehensive emergency management plan and blueprint is filed with the Ohio Department of Education, the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the school building and, upon request, the fire department and emergency medical service organization that serves the political subdivision in which the school building is located. The floor plan is used solely by first responders responding to an emergency in the building and is not a public record.

The administration reviews the plan annually, considering the most current information dealing with the subjects, as well as making relevant information about the plan known to the community. When the comprehensive emergency management plan is used, assessment of the way the emergency was handled is completed by the Board and the administration. Suggestions for improvement, if necessary, are solicited from all stakeholders.

Although the plan is reviewed annually, State law requires the District's comprehensive emergency management plan to be updated every three years and whenever a major modification to an individual school building requires changes in that building's procedures or whenever information on the emergency contact information sheet changes.

Current practice codified 1980

Adopted: date of manual adoption

Revised: February 21, 2001

Revised: June 18, 2008
Revised: November 19, 2014

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 149.433
 2305.235
 2923.11
 3301.56
 3313.20; 3313.536; 3313.717; 3313.719
 3314.03; 3314.16
 3701.85
 3737.73; 3737.99
OAC 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS.: EBAA, Reporting of Hazards
 EBBA, First Aid
 EBBC, Bloodborne Pathogens
 ECA, Buildings and Grounds Security
 ECG, Integrated Pest Management
 EEAC, School Bus Safety Program
 EF, Food Services Management
 EFB, Free and Reduced Price Food Services
 EFH, Food Allergies
 GBE, Staff Health and Safety
 JHCD, Administering Medicines to Students
 JHF, Student Safety
 KBCA, News Releases
 KK, Visitors to the Schools
 Emergency/Safety Plans Handbook

Columbia Schools, Columbia Station, Ohio