

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:170 Safety

Safety and Security

All District operations, including the education program, shall be conducted in a manner that will promote the safety and security of everyone on District property or at a District event. The Superintendent or designee shall develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive safety and security plan that includes, without limitation:

1. An emergency operations and crisis response plan(s) addressing prevention, preparation, response, and recovery for each school;
2. Provisions for a coordinated effort with local law enforcement and fire officials, emergency medical services personnel, and the Board Attorney;
3. A school safety drill plan;
4. Instruction in safe bus riding practices; and
5. A clear, rapid, factual, and coordinated system of internal and external communication.

In the event of an emergency that threatens the safety of any person or property, students and staff are encouraged to follow the best practices discussed for their building regarding the use of any available communications.

School Safety Drill Plan

During every academic year, each school building that houses school children shall conduct, at a minimum, each of the following in accordance with the School Safety Drill Act ([105 ILCS 128/](#)):

1. Three school evacuation drills to address and prepare students and school personnel for fire incidents. One of these three drills shall require the participation of the local fire department or district.
2. One bus evacuation drill.
3. One severe weather and shelter-in-place drill to address and prepare students and school personnel for possible tornado incidents.
4. One law enforcement drill to address a school shooting incident and to evaluate the preparedness of school personnel and students. This drill shall occur no later than 90 days after the first day of school of each year, and shall require the participation of all school personnel and students present at school at the time of the drill, except for those exempted by administrators or school support personnel.

Annual Review

The Board or its designee will annually review each school building's emergency operations and crisis response plan(s), protocols, and procedures, as well as each building's compliance with the school safety drill plan. This annual review shall be in accordance with the School Safety Drill Act ([105 ILCS 128/](#)) and the Joint Rules of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE). [29 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1500](#).

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

The Superintendent or designee shall implement a written plan for responding to medical emergencies at the District's physical fitness facilities in accordance with the Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Act and shall file a copy of the plan with the Ill. Dept. of Public Health (IDPH). The plan shall provide for at least one automated external defibrillator (AED) to be available at every physical fitness facility on the premises according to State law requirements.

The District shall have an AED on site as well as a trained AED user: (1) on staff during staffed business hours; and (2) available during activities or events sponsored and conducted or supervised by the District. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that every AED on the District's premises is properly tested and maintained in accordance with rules developed by the IDPH. This policy does not create an obligation to use an AED.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

The Superintendent or designee shall implement a plan with the District's local fire officials to:

1. Determine which school buildings to equip with approved *carbon monoxide alarms* or *carbon monoxide detectors*,
2. Locate the required carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors within 20 feet of a carbon monoxide emitting device, and
3. Incorporate carbon monoxide alarm or detector activation procedures into each school building that requires a carbon monoxide alarm or detector. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure each school building annually reviews these procedures.

Unsafe School Choice Option

The unsafe school choice option allows students to transfer to another District school or to a public charter school within the District. The unsafe school choice option is available to:

1. All students attending a persistently dangerous school, as defined by State law and identified by the ISBE.
2. Any student who is a victim of a violent criminal offense, as defined by [725 ILCS 120/3](#), that occurred on school grounds during regular school hours or during a school-sponsored event.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement the unsafe school choice option.

Lead Testing in Water

The Superintendent or designee shall implement testing for lead in each source of drinking water in school buildings in accordance with the Ill. Plumbing License Law and guidance published by the IDPH. The Superintendent or designee shall notify parent(s)/guardian(s) about the sampling results from their children's respective school buildings.

Emergency Closing

The Superintendent is authorized to close school(s) in the event of hazardous weather or other emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff members, or school property.

Soccer Goal Safety

The Superintendent or designee shall implement the Movable Soccer Goal Safety Act in accordance with the guidance published by the IDPH. Implementation of the Act shall be directed toward improving the safety of movable soccer goals by requiring that they be properly anchored.

Facility Security

Promoting the safety of students, staff and others in the school buildings, as well as providing for the protection of the significant financial investment in the District's buildings is a critical function of the Board of Education. Proper safety measures are to be implemented to protect those who use the buildings and to protect the buildings and equipment owned by the Board from theft and vandalism in order to maintain the optimum conditions for carrying out the educational program.

The Superintendent, or designee, shall develop and supervise a program for the security of the school buildings, school grounds, and school equipment pursuant to statute and rules of the State. Such a program may include video surveillance equipment in appropriate areas in and around the schools and other District facilities.

Every effort shall be made to apprehend those who knowingly cause serious physical harm to District property and to require such persons to repair the damage or seek the payment of a fee to cover such repairs.

Appropriate authorities may be contacted in the case of serious offenses.

The Superintendent, or designee, is authorized to install security devices, which would assist in the detection of guns and dangerous weapons in school buildings or on District property and to assist with identification of suspicious activity.

The Superintendent, or designee, shall report to the Board any significant incident involving vandalism, theft, personal safety, or other security risks and the measures being taken to address the situation.

Public Access to School Facilities

The Board expects that during regular school hours only students and school staff need to be present in the school building. The Board also acknowledges that there will be times during the instructional day that members of the public, including parents, volunteers, invited guests, or other individuals will for appropriate and legitimate reasons require entry into a school facility. In such cases, all exterior doors to every school building shall be locked during the instructional day, preventing entry into the building and all visitors to the school building during this time will be directed to a single entrance into the building. This entrance shall be the entrance closest to the main office. Visitors must identify themselves and the purpose of their visit to the school through the intercom system.

An exception will be allowed for school buildings hosting special events during the school day, where there is an expectation of a large number of visitors. In this case, Administrators may develop and implement a process to allow those visitors to enter and check in through an alternative entrance.

- A. All persons other than students and building staff shall check in with the main office of the building and shall follow the building's visitor management procedures. Each visitor shall be given a visitor lanyard and badge that shall be worn at all times while in the building.
- B. If the main office staff is unaware that the visitor was assisting in their school day, the main office may contact the staff member to verify that the visitor is expected.
- C. All visitors are required to sign out prior to departing the building.

Any visitor to the school may be refused entry or asked to leave the building at any time if the building administrator or designee determines that the visitor's presence is disruptive or is likely to become disruptive to the educational environment, or for other safety or security reasons. If a visitor refuses to leave upon request by the building administrator or designee, the administrator or designee shall contact local law enforcement as appropriate.

Any school staff member that witnesses a visitor in the school building who is not wearing a visitor lanyard and badge as required should approach the visitor and request that they accompany them to the main office so they properly check in. If the visitor refuses to comply, immediately contact the main office and if applicable call the appropriate law enforcement agency to assist.

Parents or Guardians as Visitors

The Board encourages parental involvement in the education of students in the District. For this reason, it is important to facilitate the involvement of parents in school activities and the educational process while at the same time preserving the integrity of the educational environment for all students. As a balance, the Board adopts the following requirements for parents visiting the school during the instructional day:

- A. Parents should make arrangements with their child's teacher or with the building administrator in advance of visiting their child at school unless that is not possible.
- B. Parents, like any other visitor, must enter the building through the only approved visitor entrance and shall check in at the main office in the same fashion as a visitor.

Parents who do not follow these guidelines or whose presence is disruptive to the educational environment may be asked to leave the building by the building administrator or designee. Any decision to permanently expel a parent may only be made by the Superintendent, or designee, due to repeated failure to follow rules causing a disruption to the educational environment or for overt threats of harm or actual physical contact with any staff or student.

Court Imposed Restrictions

In any case in which an individual is the subject of a court order restricting the individual's presence at a school building, including any restrictions on the individual's physical proximity to an individual that is a student or staff member at the school facility, the building administrator or designee shall inform the appropriate staff of the situation and if any staff member sees the individual on school premises that staff member shall immediately contact the main office and law enforcement.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.2](#), [5/10-20.57](#), [5/18-12](#), and [5/18-12.5](#).

[105 ILCS 128/](#), School Safety Drill Act, implemented by [29 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1500](#).

[210 ILCS 74/](#), Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Act.

[225 ILCS 320/35.5](#), Ill. Plumbing License Law.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 4:180 (Pandemic Preparedness), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)