District: Tupelo Public School District **Section:** K - General Public Relations

Policy Code: KBDA - Crisis Management Communications

CRISIS MANAGEMENT/COMMUNICATION

Students and staff have a basic need for physical and emotional safety and security, and any event outside the range of usual human experience that significantly threatens a feeling of safety and security will be considered a crisis. Crisis events have the potential to drastically affect the entire district or individual school and may include, but are not limited to, unexpected accidental deaths and injuries, crimes of violence, and natural or man-made disasters.

It will be the responsibility of the superintendent to designate a crisis management coordinator to develop and implement a management plan for the district. The Board recognizes the necessity to prepare a Crisis Management Guide in the event that a crisis should occur. The Crisis Management Guide will serve as the foundation for the development, training, and implementation of individual school plans.

Under the direction of the superintendent's designee assistant superintendent, the Ddistrict will develop and maintain a comprehensive Crisis Management Guide to serve as a guide for staff, students, parents, community members, and the Board to address a potential crisis and actual crisis situations in the district. The Crisis Management Guide will provide emergency procedures and responses for the entire district as well as each individual school site, and will seek to identify and describe preventive steps to avert a crisis situation, identify appropriate action to be taken during a crisis, and appropriate follow-up responses after an emergency condition.

Each principal will receive a copy of the Crisis Management Guide and develop necessary emergency provisions for the specific campus. In addition, the principal shall provide professional development to the school staff regarding the implementation of the crisis plan.

In the event of a crisis situation within the district, the superintendent, or designee, will serve as the spokesperson for the district to assure that accurate and timely information is available to the public.

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