Summary

House Bill 3584 was passed in the 2023 legislative session. The bill requires districts to adopt policy language about using electronic communication to notify parents, guardians and employees within 24 hours of a safety threat action that was not a drill. The bill states the communication should be "provided in a manner that communicates relevant facts and details as necessary and useful." (HB 3584, Section 1., (3)(b)) As a result of changes, OSBA recommends deleting the combined policy EBA/EBCA and splitting it into two separate policies – EBC and EBCA. It has been review by the Director of Safety and Security.

North Santiam School District

Code: EBCA

Adopted:

Safety Threats**

"Safety threat action" means a lockdown, lockout, shelter in place or evacuation that: (a) is initiated by a school in response to a safety threat; and (b) is not a planned drill.

When a school or the district initiates a safety threat action, the school or district shall issue an electronic communication as expediently as possible and not later than 24 hours after initiation of the safety threat action. The communication will be issued in culturally appropriate languages to effectively communicate with parents and guardians of students attending the school at which the safety threat action occurred.

The communication must include:

- 1. A general description of the issue that caused the safety threat action to be taken;
- 2. The duration of time the safety threat action was taken, from when the action was initiated until when it concluded;
- 3. Actions taken by the school or district to resolve the situation that caused the safety threat action and actions taken to protect student safety; and
- 4. An explanation of how the situation was resolved.

The communication shall be provided in a manner which communicates relevant facts and details as may be necessary or useful for parents and guardians to understand any potential threats to student safety, and to assist parents and guardians in helping students understand and mentally process the incident and any resulting trauma.

A communication will also be issued to employees of the school at which the safety threat action occurred, and must include the same information as above and any additional information as may be permitted by relevant confidentiality and privacy requirements.

The Board may use Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 192.660(2)(k) to conduct an executive session to consider matters related to school safety or a plan that responds to safety threats made toward a school in the district.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 192.660(2)(k) ORS 332.107 ORS 339.324