

Missoula County Public Schools

NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

8301

District Safety

General

The Board recognizes that safety and health standards should be incorporated into all aspects of the operation of the District. Rules for safety and prevention of accidents will be posted in compliance with Montana Safety Culture Act. Injuries and accidents will be reported to the District office.

The building principal will develop a plan of fire, civil defense, tornado, and earthquake warning, protection, and evacuation. This plan will be distributed to each teacher at the beginning of each school year. There will be at least eight (8) disaster drills a year. **All teachers will discuss disaster drill procedures with their class at the beginning of each year and will have them posted in a conspicuous place next to the exit door. A record will be kept of all fire drills.** The drills will be held at different hours of the day or evening to avoid distinction between drills and actual disasters. **The Superintendent will develop safety and health standards that comply with the Montana Safety Culture Act.**

~~The Board directs the formation of a District Safety Committee comprised of employer and employee representatives, as outlined in the Montana Safety Culture Act, and the development of an Exposure Control Plan for employees, to eliminate or minimize work-related exposure to bloodborne pathogens, particularly Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis B Virus (HBV).~~

~~The Board shall adopt a School Safety Plan or Emergency Operations Plan that addresses issues of school safety relating to school buildings and facilities, communications systems, and school grounds with the input from the local community and that addresses coordination on issues of school safety with any county interdisciplinary committees or a school safety team. The Board shall periodically review its Safety Plan or Emergency Operations Plan and shall update the plan as necessary based upon changing circumstances regarding school safety.~~

Security

~~Security entails not only maintenance of buildings, but also safe practices in the use of electrical, plumbing, and heating equipment and protection from fire hazards and faulty equipment. The Board requires close cooperation with local police, fire, and sheriff's departments and with insurance company inspectors.~~

~~Access to school buildings and grounds outside of regular school hours will be limited to staff whose work requires such access. An adequate key control system will be established, which will limit access to buildings to authorized staff and safeguard against potential entry of~~

unauthorized persons. Records and funds shall be kept in a safe place and under lock and key when required. Locks and other protective devices designed to be used as safeguards against illegal entry and vandalism will be installed when appropriate to an individual situation. Employment of watchmen may be approved in situations of special risk. All incidents of vandalism and burglary will be reported to the Superintendent immediately and to law enforcement agencies as appropriate.

Safety or Emergency Plans

The Board shall review the school safety or emergency operations plan periodically at least annually and update the plan as determined necessary by the trustees based on changing circumstances pertaining to school safety. Once the Board has made the annual certification to OPI, it may transfer funds pursuant to Section 20-1-401, MCA to make improvements to school safety and security.

The school safety plan or emergency operations plan must include threat assessment practices regarding the following:

- 1. The adoption of a threat assessment protocol, outlining policies and procedures for implementation when there is notification of a student threat of harm to others or property; and**
- 2. An identified threat assessment team, composed of key staff, that meets at least monthly and may include behavioral threat assessment addressing students in need of academic and behavioral supports or interventions.**

School Closure

The Superintendent is authorized to close the schools in the event of hazardous weather or other emergencies that threaten the safety of students, staff members, or school property. Specific procedures for school closures may be found in the District's Safety Plan or Emergency Operations Plan. The Board shall periodically review the District's Safety Plan or Emergency Operations Plan and shall update the plan as necessary based upon changing circumstances regarding school safety.

Hazardous and Infectious Materials

The Superintendent shall take all reasonable measures to protect the safety of District personnel, students, and visitors on District premises from risks associated with hazardous materials, including pesticides, and infectious materials. Specific procedures for handling hazardous or infectious materials may be found in the District's Safety Plan.

Safety Measures

The Superintendent is authorized to adopt reasonable safety measures to protect the safety of District personnel, students, and visitors on District premises and during school-related activities. Reasonable safety measures include adoption of cleaning/sanitization plans, use of physical safeguards/barriers, and required use of personal protective equipment (e.g., face masks). Exceptions to any requirements adopted by the Superintendent may be granted as required by law and on a case-by-case basis.

Legal Reference: §§ 39-71-1501 MCA Montana Safety Culture Act
§ 50-61-114, MCA Fire chief and fire inspector to make inspections
29 CFR 1910.1030 The Bloodborne Pathogens Standard
§ 20-1-401, MCA Disaster Drills to be conducted regularly **(Revised
by Senate Bill 213)**
§ 20-1-402, MCA Number of disaster drills required – time of drills to
vary

Policy History:

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