

3205	Student Safety Policy
Approval Date:	April 2015
Category:	General School Administration
Governance Accountability:	Board of Directors, Leadership, Employees
Audience:	Families

Safe schools are critical to creating a learning environment where students can succeed. Staff and students share in the responsibility to take reasonable precautions and safety measures to create and maintain safe schools. The following safety measures must be taken at each school.

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Students must be reasonably supervised during school hours, including while in class, between classes, on the playground and during recess or lunch periods.

Proper supervision must be provided and reasonable precautions taken during authorized school field trips. Reasonable precautions should be taken to assure the safety of students on school grounds and on buses, before, during and after school.

SUPERVISION OF VISITORS

School administrators will enforce the Visitor Policy.

CARE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The principals will inspect or cause to be inspected school buildings, playgrounds, equipment and buses for health, fire and safety hazards on a regular basis and as required by law. Any staff member who observes any potential hazards will immediately notify the Head of Schools. The principal will notify the Head of Schools immediately of repairs needed in order to meet safety standards.

Proper signs indicating potential danger will be posted.

ESTABLISHING PROCESSES TO ADDRESS POTENTIAL SAFETY CONCERNS

A. School Safety and Discipline Concerns

Each school must address school safety and discipline concerns in the school improvement plan.

B. School Rules

Rules will be made in each school to help prevent accidents in buildings, on school grounds or on the playgrounds.

C. Training for Staff and Students

Staff training should include instruction on how to respond to a variety of emergency situations. As a part of instruction, school personnel will teach and review safety procedures and precautions for handling chemicals or potentially dangerous equipment. School employees shall provide students with safety equipment as required by law. Each school will practice emergency drills on a regular basis and as required by law.

D. Reporting Suspicious Behavior

Students should notify any staff member of any acts of violence, harassment or bullying or any other unusual or suspicious behavior that may endanger safety. Staff must report immediately to the principal any student's information or their own observation of such behavior.

Every principal is required to investigate and act upon reports of such behavior, including, when appropriate, reporting criminal activities to law enforcement, the State Board of Education and the superintendent.

E. Student Behavior Standards

Student behavior standards are expected to be met and consequences for misbehavior provided in accordance with board policies.

Legal Reference: G.S. 115C-36, -47, -288, -307