

September 2020

Dear Parents:

Should an emergency or disaster situation ever arise in our area while school is in session, we want you to be aware that the schools have made preparations to respond effectively to such situations.

Should we have a major disaster during school hours, your child/children will be cared for at the school. Our School District has a detailed emergency operations plan that has been formulated to respond to all hazards in conjunction with Emergency Services.

Your cooperation is necessary in any emergency.

1. **Do not come to the school or telephone the school.** Roads may be blocked/closed off. Emergency responders need clear access. Telephone lines may be needed for emergency communication. You will be notified of a reunification location, if necessary.
2. Information regarding day-to-day school operations will be through the ParentLink notification system covering email and telephone. If students are to be kept at school, information will be relayed via ParentLink.
3. In prolonged events, students will only be released to parents, an official guardian, or an authorized responsible adult. Authorized adults are identified as emergency contacts by **completing a Student Emergency Contact form or updating your Student Profile Sheet in the main office**. Please be sure your emergency contact information is up to date for your child/children and consider the following criteria when you authorize another person to pick up your child at school:
  - He/she is 18 years of age or older.
  - He/she is usually home during the day.
  - He/she could walk to school, if necessary.
  - He/she is known to your child.
  - He/she is both aware and able to assume this responsibility.
  - **They must have a valid photo identification**
4. Impress upon your children the need for them to follow the directions of school personnel and emergency service workers in times of an emergency.
5. Students will be released only to parents, guardians and persons identified as Emergency Contacts. During an extreme emergency, students will be released at designated reunion locations, if necessary. Please be patient and understanding during the student release process. Please instruct your student to remain at the release or reunification location until you or a designee arrives.
6. When the dangerous incident has subsided, an all-clear signal will be given. Please discuss these matters with your immediate family. Planning will help alleviate concern during emergencies.

Sincerely,  
Greenwich Public Schools