

SAFETY

Accidents are undesirable, unplanned occurrences which often result in bodily harm, loss of school time, property damage, possibly expensive legal action, and even death. It is therefore the policy of the Board to take every reasonable precaution for the safety of the students, employees, visitors, patrons, and all others having business with the school district. The Board believes that safety is important to everyone concerned with our schools, not only as a protective measure during school hours, but also as an instructional means of developing an appropriate mode of behavior to minimize accidents at all times.

The responsibility for developing the total safety program shall be delegated to the District Safety Officer, a staff member responsible to the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Support Services. This staff person shall be responsible for the promotion and development of an aggressive accident prevention and safety education program for certificated and classified personnel employed by the District.

The general areas of responsibility include, but are not limited to, in-service training, accident record keeping, Accident Review Board, plant inspection, safety work order review, fire prevention, emergency procedures, and traffic safety problems related to employees, pupils, and community.

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 shall be posted in compliance with OSHA and WISHA requirements. All hazardous chemicals will be identified and properly labeled. Staff members will be trained in the use of these chemicals specific to their respective jobs. Proper records will be maintained to verify that all of the preventive and safety measures are in place. Injuries, accidents, and blood exposure incidents shall be reported to the district safety officer using the appropriate form. Serious injuries and accidents should also be immediately reported via telephone to the district safety officer and the district receptionist.

The district shall have at least one staff member at each school and work site in the district, who holds a valid certificate of first aid training from the department of labor and industries, U.S. Bureau of Mines or the American Red Cross or equivalent training provided by the district nurses. Each school and work site shall have first aid supplies readily accessible and if the work site has more than fifty employees, a first-aid station shall be established. The superintendent shall develop necessary safety and health standards to comply with Department of Labor requirements.

The board recognizes that playground equipment is an essential part of a complete school facility. All playground equipment, whether purchased by the district or donated by a community or school-related group, should be assessed in terms of suitability and durability and for possible health or safety hazards. Consideration shall also be given to potential hazards when the playground is unsupervised during nonschool hours.

The superintendent shall use current industry standards and guidelines for playground equipment and related play surfaces. These specifications shall serve as criteria for the selection of playground equipment. Selection and installation of playground equipment shall be based upon safety and contribution to child development.

The board recognizes the potential health and safety hazards that exist as a result of chemical storage and handling. Instruction shall be emphasized in the safe and proper use of chemicals and substances and proper laboratory techniques. All students and staff are to wear safety glasses or goggles whenever they are working under potentially hazardous conditions. Laboratories should be ventilated sufficiently enough to provide a healthful, nonhazardous environment.

The superintendent is directed to establish safety guidelines and procedures which will minimize the hazards inherent in the science classes and laboratories in the schools.

Cross References:	Board Policy 6510	Safety
	Board Policy 6512	Infection Control Program
	Board Policy 6605	Student safety walking to school and riding buses

Legal References:	RCW 49.17	Washington Industrial Safety and Health
	RCW 28A. 335.300	Playground Matting Act

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