



Freedom High School
Respect, Responsibility, Resilience
James Burns



**ALBUQUERQUE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Scott Elder, Superintendent
Esther Keeton, Principal

August 24, 2022

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. In fact, public schools in New Mexico are built to meet stringent construction standards and may be safer than your own home in the event of a disaster.

Should we have a major disaster during school hours, your student will be cared for at this school. Our School District has a detailed emergency crisis plan, which has been formulated to respond to a major catastrophe.

Your cooperation is necessary in any emergency.

1. Do not telephone the school. Telephone lines may be needed for emergency communication.
2. In the event of a serious emergency, students who are under 18 years of age, will be kept at their schools until they are picked up by a responsible adult, who has been identified as such on a School District Emergency form, which is required to be filled out by parents at the beginning of every school year. Please be sure to 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 has a valid picture ID.
 - He/she is usually home during the school day.
 - He/she could walk to school, if necessary.
 - He/she is known to your child
 - He/she is both aware of and able to assume this responsibility.
3. Turn your radio to 77KOB; 89.1 or log into www.aps.edu for emergency announcements. If students are to be kept at school, radio stations will be notified. If electrical service is not affected, information will be relayed via the School District to the local TY Channel. In addition information regarding day to day school operations will be available by calling the District Office.
4. Impress upon your students the need for them to follow the directions of any school personnel in times of an emergency.

Students, under the age of 18, will be released only to parents and persons identified on the School District Emergency form. During an extreme emergency, students will be released at designated reunion areas on school campus. Please instruct your student to remain at school until you or a designee arrives.

The decision to keep students at school will be based upon whether or not streets in the area are open. If this occurs, radio stations will be notified. Freedom High School does not have bus

service so the City's Bus System will dictate how students who ride the City Bus will be transported. Please refer to the news media for instructions.

In case of a hazardous release event (chemical spill) near the school area, Shelter-In-Place procedures will be implemented to provide in-place protection. All students and staff will clear the fields, report to their rooms and all efforts will be made to prevent outside air from entering classrooms during the emergency. "Shelter-in Place" signs will be placed in classroom windows or hung outside the classroom doors during a drill or emergency. Students arriving at school during a Shelter-in-Place drill or event should report to the school office or to a previously designate area at the school because classrooms will be inaccessible. When the dangerous incident has subsided, an all-clear signal will be given. Please discuss these matters with your immediate family. Planning ahead will help alleviate concern during emergencies.

Sincerely,

Esther Keeton
Principal
Freedom High School