



# SCHOOL EMERGENCY INFORMATION

## Guide for Families

### MRSD Safety Terms and Procedures

In the event of an emergency at your child's school, it's important to know the terms and response possibilities. A school crisis can range from a weather emergency to an environmental event like a chemical spill to a dangerous event in the immediate area or at the school. The nature of a school crisis dictates which response school officials will enact.

#### 1 STAY IN PLACE

Some events may require everyone to temporarily remain in place (such as a medical emergency requiring clear hallways). This restricts movement within the building.

#### 2 SECURE PERIMETER

This ensures that everyone remain inside the school building due to weather or potential criminal events. Movement within the building operates as usual.

#### 3 RUN/HIDE/FIGHT

If there is an internal or external threat, all flee if deemed safe, if unable to flee, then hide, and as last resort, fight. Instructions will be given whenever possible.

#### 4 EVACUATION

In certain emergencies, everyone will be asked to evacuate the school building and relocate to a designated area.

### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

- ✓ **DO** keep your phone close by for notifications from the district.
- ✓ **DO** listen for official information regarding reunification with your child.
- ✗ **DO NOT** call or come to your child's school. Your calls could prevent staff from focusing on issues at hand, and your presence could interfere with emergency responders.
- ✗ **DO NOT** call or text your child. Staff and students are discouraged from using cell phones for safety reasons.





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### A FAMILY'S ROLE

In a school emergency, the first instinct as a parent or caregiver is to pick up the phone to call the school or rush to the school to get your child. In reality, this only complicates matters from a safety and security standpoint. These actions can hinder the work of public safety officials and delay reunification further. The best action families can take is to stay close to their phone and email to await updates.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Make sure your contact information and emergency contact information is up to date in Aspen. The district uses the information in Aspen to share emergency updates via our MassNotification system. Messages will be sent via email, app, and text, and sometimes phone, depending on the situation.

**Be prepared**

### REUNITING WITH YOUR CHILD

Parents and caregivers will be directed by district officials or public safety regarding release of students, at school or at another location. Students will only be released to documented emergency contacts. Reunification can be time-consuming, so patience is encouraged.

**Be patient**

