

# For Safety's Sake!



*Keeping Selah Students Safe is Our Priority!*

## A Message for Parents:

**T**he safety of Selah students and staff has always been our priority.

In order to provide quality learning environments, students and staff must be safe. That is why the District has safety systems in place, so learning is the focus.

The District follows established safety practices with oversight from the Director of Safety. Also, there are District and school safety teams. Further, the District has a strong partnership with the Selah Police Department and other local first responders, as well as ESD 105. Additionally, all of our buildings are designed for school safety and staff are practiced in initiating emergency plans.

Parent collaboration is vital in keeping schools safe. Please talk to your children about safety and the drills they practice at school. Also, make sure to monitor social media sites, recognizing warning signs, when to intervene, and stay involved.

If you have safety questions, contact the school your child attends, or, Director of Safety, Joe Coscart, at [joeoscscarart@selahschools.org](mailto:joeoscscarart@selahschools.org).

Thank you for your safety partnership.

## Parent's Are Our Partners in Safety!

- **Talk to your child** about safety at school.
- Ensure your child's school has **up-to-date contact information** for the immediate household and all emergency contacts (phone, email).
- Understand that in any situation students will only be released to **individuals authorized** on emergency contact records.
- **Follow all policies and procedures** established by your child's school for parking, gaining building access and visitation.
- Know about the District's **anonymous tip-reporting system** and help promote the tool.
- **Be our safety partner.** In the event of a safety situation, understand the District's protocols. Stay calm, and refrain from accessing the District's campuses unless directed. Please know the District's first priority in any situation, is keeping students safe.



## Play it Safe! Let's Stay Connected!

Remember to have an active **ParentSquare** account. Updated contact information is important (phone, email) as ParentSquare uses this data to contact parents/guardians and provide different forms of information.



## Emergency Communications

In an emergency situation, parents will be contacted via phone, text, email or or all three means. **Communication updates will be sent as available.** If an evacuation is required, parents will be notified as to the reunification location and applicable transportation arrangements.

**District and school administrators and law enforcement are the only official sources of information** in a school emergency. The speed of outside social media travels faster than the time it takes to assess a situation so action can be initiated and an investigation started. We want to ensure the information we share is accurate.



## Safety is our Priority!

Our Commitment to Providing a Safe and Secure Learning Environment

- We **routinely conduct safety drills** to ensure that if we are faced with an emergency situation, we can act orderly and swiftly.
- We **partner with the Selah Police Department** and have a School Resource Officer (SRO) that is housed at Selah High School but can respond to any school.
- Selah Middle School and Selah High School **employ Campus Security Monitors and Campus Engagement Specialists.**
- Each of our schools has a **comprehensive safe school plan** which outlines procedures and strategies for crisis situations.
- All **buildings are designed for safety** with systems that manage access to exterior and some interiors doors on campuses, including vestibule entry passage ways.
- A **Threat Assessment System has been implemented** for the purpose of preventing targeted violence.
- **Tip lines and the STOPit app** are available. More information on these reporting tools is available on our website under the School Safety link, which explains how students, parents and/or community members can report information of potential violence, or other issues that may need to be investigated.
- We continually **provide emergency training** to our staff.



Learn More About Selah School District Safety at:  
<https://www.selahschools.org/domain/756>

# Selah's Safety Approach!

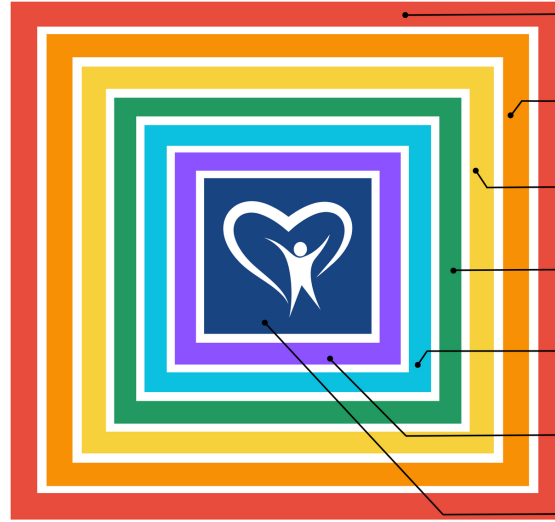


## Recognize Our Safety Practices



### Our Layered Safety Approach

**K**eeping students and staff safe is a top priority. Our goal is to provide safe and secure learning environments where high quality educational experiences help cultivate a culture of lifelong learning for all. A layered safety approach recognizes that no single barrier or intervention is sufficient by itself to maintain a safe school campus. Rather, using multiple layers acts like a filter to be able to identify, resolve and mitigate threats. In Selah, we think about about safety in the following layers: **Well-Being**, **Classroom Safety**, **School Safety**, **Internal Safety**, **External Safety**, **Cyber Safety** and **Safety Management**. Access the QR code above to visit our safety website and review our Layered School Safety System.



The Selah School District's  
Seven Layered Safety System.

### Our 'Core Four' Crisis Response Terms

The District recognizes core four primary responses to crisis, **Lockdown**, **Secure & Teach**, **Shelter in Place** and **Evacuation**. Each month, one of these responses is practiced by our staff and students.

#### 1 Lockdown

A **Lockdown** is a response to a threat of harm. During a lockdown, it's **Locks, Lights, Out of Sight**. Safety practices will include:

- Close and lock internal and external doors
- Everyone into locked areas
- Pull interior and exterior blinds
- Don't be seen or heard (no talking)
- Run/Barricade/Fight
- Monitor communications



#### 2 Secure & Teach

**Secure & Teach** is response to a threat of harm or other need to secure classrooms. Safety practices will include:

- Close and lock external entrances
- Get students into classrooms
- Close and lock classroom doors
- Pull interior and exterior blinds
- Continue to teach and move about as communicated
- Monitor communications



#### 3 Shelter in Place

**Shelter in Place** is in response to chemical, biological, or radioactive events. Safety practices will include:

- Shelter in a safe area within the building
- Isolate the environment
- Shut off HVAC systems
- Head count and collect
- Monitor communications



#### 4 Evacuation

**Evacuation** is a response to fire or other internal threat. Safety practices will include:

- Wait for intercom or email announcement
- Exit the building and go to a rally point
- Take attendance
- Show red or green clipboard
- Modified transportation as needed
- Monitor communications



### Our Reporting Resources...

Get to know the reporting resources students and adults can access if they suspect that a dangerous and unsafe incident could transpire in our schools.



Also, there may be additional crisis response drills executed by each school (for example, *Drop, Cover, and Hold*, in response to an earthquake), in order to practice for various emergency situations.



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