

# SHELTER IN PLACE



**SHELTER IN PLACE** is a short-term measure implemented to isolate students and staff from the outdoor environment and prevent exposure to airborne contaminants or threats posed by wildlife or other environmental hazards. The procedures may necessitate closing and sealing doors, windows, and vents; shutting down the classroom/building heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems to prevent exposure to the outside air; and turning off pilot lights.

**SHELTER IN PLACE** is considered appropriate for, but is not limited to, the following types of emergencies:

- External chemical release
- Fire in the community
- Hazardous material spills
- Unhealthy air quality outside
- Dangerous wildlife on or near campus

A Shelter-in-Place response may require that HVAC systems be shut down to provide protection from contaminated outside air. Students and staff may freely move about inside the buildings, but no one should leave the protected space until directed by fire officials, law enforcement, or site administration.

## **SHELTER IN PLACE:**

- All heating, air conditioning, and ventilation systems may need to be shut down immediately depending on the hazard
- All pilot lights and sources of flame may need to be extinguished
- Any gaps around doors and windows may need to be sealed
- Allows for free movement within classrooms or offices