



Fire and Safety Responsibilities



The North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 115C, subsection 288, paragraph (d), states under Powers and Duties of the Principal that: "It shall be the duty of the Principal to conduct a fire drill during the first week after the opening of school and at least one fire drill each school month, in each building in his charge, where children are assembled." The paragraph also states that the Principal shall inspect each of the buildings in his charge at least twice each month during the regular school session. This inspection shall include cafeterias, gymnasiums, boiler rooms, storage rooms, auditoriums and stage areas as well as all classrooms. This inspection shall be for the purpose of keeping the buildings safe from the accumulation of trash and other fire hazards. It shall be the duty of the principal to file two copies of a written report once each month during the regular school session with the superintendent of his local school administrative unit, one copy of which shall be transmitted by the superintendent to the chairman of the local board of education. This report shall state the date the last fire drill was held, the time consumed in evacuating each building, that the inspection has been made as prescribed by law and such other information as is deemed necessary for fire safety by the Commissioner of Insurance, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education."

Chapter 115C, Subsection 525, paragraph (b) Inspection of Schools for Fire Hazards; Removal of Hazards. "That every public school building in the State shall be inspected a minimum of two times during the year in accordance with the following plan: Provided, that the periodic inspections herein required shall be at least 120 days apart."

Excerpts from the North Carolina State Building Code: Fire Code

All Onslow County Schools will be inspected twice during the school year by either the Onslow County Codes Enforcement Branch or the Jacksonville Fire Department. Below are some excerpts from the Fire Code of the most frequently observed violations.



Section 807.4.3.2 Artwork— Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of corridors to not more than 20 percent of

the wall area.

Section 605.5 Extension Cords— Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be a substitute for permanent wiring. Extension cords shall not be affixed to structures, extended through walls, ceilings or floors, or under doors or floor coverings.

Section 605.5.3 Maintenance. Extension cords shall be maintained in good condition without splices, deterioration or damage.

Section 605.4 Multiplug adapters— Such as cube adapters, unfused plug strips or any other device not complying with the ICC Electrical Code shall be prohibited.



Section 605.4.2 Power Supply. Relocatable power taps shall be directly connected to a permanently installed receptacle.

Section 703.3 Ceiling. The hanging and displaying of salable goods and other decorative materials from acoustical ceilings systems that are part of a fire-resistance-rated floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assembly **shall be prohibited**.

Section 604.5.2 Functional test. A functional test shall be conducted on all emergency lights and exit signs every 30 days.

Section 315.2.3 Equipment rooms. Combustible material **shall not** be stored in boiler rooms, mechanical rooms or electrical equipment rooms.

Section 605.3 Working space and clearance for electrical equipment. A working space of not less than 30 inches in width, 36 inches in depth and 78 inches in height shall be provided in front of electrical service equipment. No storage of any material shall be located within the designated working space.





The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) states that all portable fire extinguishers be inspected on a monthly basis.

906.6. Unobstructed and unobscured. Fire Extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view.

906.7 Hangers and brackets. Hand-held portable fire extinguishers, not housed in cabinets, shall be installed on the hangers or brackets supplied. Hangers or brackets shall be securely anchored to the mounting surface in accordance with the manufacture's installation instructions.

The maximum travel distance for Class A Fire Hazards shall be 75 feet.



Definitions. Means of egress.

A continuous and unobstructed path of vertical and horizontal egress travel from any point in a building to a public way.

Section 315.2.2 Means of egress. Combustible materials shall not be stored in exits or exit closures.

Section 1027.3 Obstructions. A means of egress shall be free from obstructions that would prevent its use, including the accumulation of snow and ice.

Section 1027.4 Furnishings and decorations. Furnishings or other objects shall not be placed so as to obstruct exits, access thereto, egress therefrom or visibility thereof.

1014.2.1 Exit or exit access doorway arrangement. Required exits shall be located in a manner that makes their availability obvious. Exits shall be unobstructed at all times.



Section 1008.1 Doors.

Means of egress doors shall be readily distinguishable from the adjacent construction and finishes such that the doors are easily recognizable as means of egress doors. Mirrors or similar reflecting materials shall not be used on egress doors. Nor shall they be concealed by curtains, drapes, decorations or similar materials.

1017.1 General. An exit shall not be used for any purpose that interferes with its function as a means of egress.

Section 1016.2 Corridor Width. The minimum corridor width shall be 72" in Group E (educational) when having a capacity of 100 or more.



The intent of this pamphlet is to provide information to all school personnel of the importance of fire safety and how to maintain a safe working environment.

Schools are required to maintain a copy of all Fire Drill Reports and present them to the Fire Inspector upon request. A copy should also be sent to the Security and Safety Dept by either email or faxed to 989-2301.



Fire and Safety Guidelines



Security and Safety Department