

Purpose

Severe Weather /
Lightning

The capricious nature of thunderstorms cannot guarantee an individual or group absolute protection from a lightning strike; however, being aware of, and following proven lightning safety precautions and guidelines can greatly reduce the risk of injury or death.

When severe weather, including lightning, occurs, procedures outlined in the approved *Lightning Safety Guidelines*, issued by the athletic department, will be used. This emergency plan includes instructions for participants and spectators as recommended by the NCAA and National Severe Storms Laboratory to mitigate the hazards of lightning.

Chain of Command

The chain of command designates who monitors threatening weather and who makes the decision to remove teams or individuals from an athletic site or event. It includes the stadium manager, licensed athletic trainer, athletic department administrator, athletic director, and/or the head coach of the participating sport, school administrator, and game officials.

Responsibilities

The following will apply:

1. The athletic department will annually conduct training for all coaches on lightning safety.
2. The stadium manager and licensed athletic trainer will jointly command the suspension and resumption of athletic activities according to approved procedures outlined in the *Lightning Safety Guidelines* issued by the athletic department.
3. The *Lightning Safety Guidelines* will also apply to local campus games and practices, utilizing the individual school's chain of command.
4. The stadium manager will be the spokesperson to participating teams, school administrators, game officials, press box, and news media.
5. The sports medicine department will obtain weather reports the day of a game/event and throughout the event. The information will be disseminated in a timely manner by the assigned licensed athletic trainer.
6. Stadium announcements will be repeated over the public address system.
7. Notices and safety instructions will be posted in visible, high traffic areas. Safety instructions will include the location of the nearest safe shelter.

Crowd Control

Designated administrators will be authorized to ensure appropriate conduct of students, teachers, coaches, sponsors, and others attending an activity on school premises, athletic fields, or elsewhere. Crowd control efforts in facilities other than District-owned facilities will be coordinated through the officials or administrators in charge of that location.

**Educator
Misconduct**

For purposes of this regulation, misconduct is defined as an educator's alleged abuse or commission of an otherwise unlawful act with the student or involvement in an inappropriate sexual relationship, soliciting or engaging in sexual contact with the student or grooming behavior with a student.

Notification

The campus administrator shall notify the Superintendent of Schools or designee by engaging in the following activities within three business days after the date the campus administrator knew or should have known of the employee's misconduct [see DHB(REGULATION)]:

1. Notify immediate supervisor.
2. Notify School Leadership designee.
3. Enter report into the critical incident reporting system and notify Child Protective Services.
4. Notify Employee Relations.
5. Send notification letter to impacted parent(s) by certified mail and copy School Leadership.
6. Schedule a conference with impacted parent(s).

Employee Relations must notify the School Leadership designee within three business days of the Legal Review Committee's recommendation or employee's separation.

The campus administrator shall engage in the following activities within three business days of receipt of Employee Relation's notification:

1. Mail closure letter to impacted parent(s) by certified mail.
2. Provide evidence of the mailing to the School Leadership designee.

[See also FFG for reporting requirements related to child abuse and FFH for parental notification requirements regarding prohibited conduct as defined by that policy.]

**Last Amended or
Adopted Date**

This regulation was last amended on May 24, 2019.