



BANGOR SLATERS
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Bangor Area School District

Parent's Guide to School Emergencies



Our Commitment to Safety

Bangor Area School District will maintain a safe and secure learning environment for our students and staff. The School District has established policies and procedures designed to effectively deal with an emergency incident should it occur in our School District or community. These policies and procedures are established in cooperation with our local law enforcement agencies and the Pennsylvania State Police, which are valuable partners in our effort to maintain a safe and secure school environment.

Each of our schools has its own emergency operations plan, specific to the building, the staff, and the students in that school. Additionally, we conduct safety and security drills throughout the school year to ensure our plans are being implemented correctly and to make improvements or adjustments as necessary.

Visitor Guidelines

All Bangor Area School District Schools have updated secure entrances. Parents are welcome visitors to our schools, but we request that you comply with our visitor procedures to maintain a safe environment for students and staff.

- **All visitors are required to use the Main Entrance** and identify themselves to office personnel in addition to their purpose for visiting, prior to entering the building
- Upon entrance, **visitors are to report directly to the Main Office and present valid photo identification to obtain a visitor's pass. The pass must remain displayed during the visit.**

PLEASE NOTE: Weapons of any type are STRICTLY PROHIBITED on any Bangor Area School District Property including weapons located within any vehicles parked on school district property.

Student Emergency Contact Information

During an emergency, it is vital that BASD has accurate and current emergency contact information for all students. In an emergency, the District will contact parents via Blackboard Connect telephone and email Notification Service. **If your telephone number(s) or email address changes, please contact the main office at all your children's schools to update your contact information.**

Emergency Protocol

If an emergency would occur in our schools, parents will be notified by telephone and email using Blackboard Connect. An emergency message will include basic information about the nature of the emergency. In the event of an evacuation, you will be notified where the students are being transported and where you can be reunited with your child. We work with local first responders to establish reunification points throughout our District. Depending on the situation, we will establish a reunification point and notify you of the specific location once it has been established.

Bangor Area School District continuously strives to ensure the protection of all students and staff. The success of our emergency plan depends on the ongoing partnerships established with staff, students, parents, and first responders. We appreciate your continued cooperation and support to keep our schools safe places for learning.

In addition to Blackboard Connect notifications BASD may also communicate with parents via:

- District Website: www.bangorslaters.com
- Social Media: Twitter (@WHawsBASD; @SlaterAthletics) Facebook (@BangorAreaSD)
- Local television and news media

Parental Guidelines During an Emergency

For the safety of everyone, parents are asked to wait for instructions from the School District regarding how to be reunited with your child in an emergency.

- **Do not call the school during an emergency.** If you call the school during an emergency, you may not be able to speak with anyone and may tie up telephone lines which could be used for communicating with emergency services. We will share accurate information ASAP.
- **Meet your child at the designated reunification point.** We understand that emotions run high during an emergency and parents want to be reunited with their children. Going to the school may interfere with police or other emergency workers whose sole purpose is to assure the safety and well-being of students and staff.
- **Follow School District instructions regarding where and when you can be reunited with your child.** While every person's instinct in an emergency is to go to the school, please understand that by doing so may significantly reduce the school's ability to respond to the situation. We request that you refrain from going to your child's school until receiving official notice. Our goal is to have your child safely reunited with you as quickly as possible.

PLEASE NOTE: Bangor Area School District will release students only to the designated adult(s) listed on the student's Emergency Information Card. Photo ID will be required. Please be patient during the reunification process as it is important to verify that students are being released to the proper adults(s).

Safety Practices and Procedures

The Bangor Area School District conducts a variety of safety drills throughout the school year so that students and staff will be familiar with the procedures associated with various scenarios. These drills include fire, weather, emergency, and threat of an active shooter.

We encourage parents to discuss the drills with their children and emphasize the need to remain calm, attentive, and take the practice sessions seriously. While it is our hope that an actual emergency never occurs, these drills are very important to ensure that students and staff are prepared in the event of an emergency.

The Bangor Area School District has trained its staff and students in the principles of **ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate)** in the event an armed intruder enters a school. These are nationally recognized protocols for keeping everyone safe in an active threat/shooter situation and are designed to be age appropriate. **Response procedures may be modified per building to accommodate student grade and comprehension levels.**

ALICE principles are not meant to be sequential (used in this order) but are all viable options to be considered in an emergency.

ALICE (Brief Overview):

- **A – Alert – Initial Alert** – Possible gunshot or announcement over the school PA system. It is important in an emergency that people know what is happening and the location. For example, if an intruder is on the first floor near the library, it is important to communicate the information so teachers and students can decide if the best course of action is to lock down or evacuate, depending where they are in the building.
- **L – Lockdown** – In a lockdown situation, if evacuation is not a safe option, students and staff are encouraged to lock the door and create a barricade to deter entrance into the room.
- **I – Inform** – As the situation unfolds, it is important to communicate real time information on the intruder's location. Use clear and plain language (no code words) by any possible means of communication.
- **C – Counter – Only as a last resort** – If an intruder enters a classroom, staff and students are encouraged to disrupt/distract the intruder by throwing objects or swarming/overtaking the intruder, depending on the situation and age of the students. Move toward the exits while creating distance and distraction.
- **E – Evacuate** – When safe to do so, run from danger. If possible, students and staff are encouraged to get away from the situation as quickly as possible, evacuate the building and proceed to the established rally point.

For more information about ALICE please go to: www.alicetraining.com