

REGULATION

NORTHVALE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPERATIONS

NATURAL DISASTERS AND
MAN-MADE CATASTROPHES
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R 8420.3 – NATURAL DISASTERS & MAN-MADE CATASTROPHES

A. Definitions

1. Natural disasters” include floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, lightning strikes.
2. “Man-made catastrophes” include explosions, toxic hazards, airplane accidents, nuclear accidents, attacks.

B. Procedures

1. The Principal is responsible for responding quickly and reasonably to all natural disasters and man-made catastrophes. The Principal’s primary goal in any emergency is the protection of the students and staff members.
2. The Principal shall cooperate with local law enforcement officers, civil defense agencies, and other appropriate authorities.
3. All reasonable efforts will be made to predict or anticipate the occurrence of a natural disaster or manmade catastrophe and to take such steps in advance as may be necessary to protect students and staff and, if possible, school property.
4. Any school employee who detects or suspects a natural disaster or man-made catastrophe shall immediately notify the Principal, who shall immediately evaluate and/or verify the report. The Principal shall report an impending disaster or catastrophe to the Superintendent and the appropriate police or civil authority.
5. If necessary and prudent, the school will be evacuated.
6. Until their students are sent home or they are otherwise excused from their duties, classroom teachers will attend to the needs of the students assigned to them. Other teaching staff members and support staff members will report to the Principal or their immediate supervisor for direction. The following personnel should be prepared to take the actions indicated at the direction of the Principal.
 - a. The school nurse will set up a station for the treatment of injuries and caring for injured and shocked persons until transportation to hospital facilities is available.



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- b. The head custodian will survey the damage, if any, done to essential school building services, such as electrical, gas, water, and fuel. He/she will report any such damage to the Principal along with any recommendations for repair or substitution.
7. If the school cannot or should not be re-entered, parents will be notified and students will be sent home as follows:
 - a. Students who ordinarily walk to school will be excused if there is somebody at home to receive them.,
 - b. Students who ride school buses will be excused as soon as bus transportation is available and parents have been notified.
 - c. The Principal may arrange for private vehicle transportation.
8. Students who cannot be sent home safely shall be sheltered in a safe place in the school or in the place designated for out-of-school shelter in the school evacuation plan. A teaching staff member will be assigned to supervise any such students until they can be transferred to the parent or responsible adult designated by the parent.
9. The Principal, other administrators, and all school staff members will strive to discharge their responsibilities calmly, intelligently, and prudently.

Adopted: September 28, 1998
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