

**School Safety**

The board recognizes that safety and health standards should be incorporated into all aspects of the operations of the school and directs the Supervising Teacher (the most senior professional) to develop and post rules for safety and the prevention of accidents. These rules shall provide for:

1. Instruction of students and staff in safety and accident prevention;
2. Protective devices where they are required for the safety of students; and
3. Suitable and safe equipment where such equipment is necessary for the conduct of the educational program and the operation of the schools.

These rules for safety and prevention of accidents shall be posted in compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) requirements. Injuries and accidents shall be reported to the Supervising Teacher.

**Safety Program**

Surveillance, supervision and training are the key factors in accident prevention. This is true both as it relates to staff and students. The following is presented to assist and improve the safety record of the district:

**Responsibilities****Supervising Teacher**

The Supervising Teacher has the primary responsibility to identify safety hazards which may occur between periodic safety inspections, to include safety education as a part of the educational program, and to assure the proper supervision of students. More specifically:

1. Student supervision will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m., or at such time that the last student is picked up, and is to be provided at noon, morning and afternoon recesses
2. Annually, campus and playground safety rules will be communicated to the staff, the students and the parents.
3. The Administration/Supervising Teacher is responsible to see that accident reports on the appropriate forms are submitted to the Board of Trustees.
4. The Administration/County Superintendent should examine all curricula that exposes an unusual risk to students, to assure that with the introduction of any new activity or equipment, safety procedures are outlined prior to use.

**Board of Trustees**

The Board has the responsibility for the maintenance of a safe educational environment including both facilities and grounds. More specifically, the Board should:

1. Conduct regular inspections of all facilities and grounds for potential safety hazards.
2. Provide instruction to the operations staff as it relates to safe working procedures and the identification of unsafe areas.
3. Review and approve the selection and location of new playground equipment prior to its purchase and installation.
4. See that a fire inspection is conducted in the school buildings at least once every 18 months by the chief of the local fire department or a fire inspector of the Department of Justice
5. Develop an Exposure Control Plan for employees to eliminate or minimize work-related exposure to blood borne pathogens, particularly Human Immune-deficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis B Virus (HBV).

6. Participate in the prosecution of an individual(s) who may disturb any school or school meetings, insult or abuse any school employee or student during the course of the school/work day, or otherwise violate the laws of the State of Montana regarding school disturbance or individual protection for school employees or students.
7. Develop necessary safety and health standards that comply with the Montana Safety Culture Act.

The Board of Trustees, and the most senior administrator shall develop a plan of fire, civil defense, flood, tornado, and earthquake (choose the appropriate ones for your District) warnings, protection and evacuation. This plan shall be distributed to each staff at the beginning of the school year. There shall be at least eight disaster drills a year, four of which shall be fire drills. The drills shall be held at different hours of the day or evening (if the school is used then) to avoid distinction between drills and actual disasters.

Legal Reference:	§ 20-1-402, MCA	Number of disaster drills required
	§39-71-1501, et seq., MCA	Montana safety culture act
	§24-30-2501, et seq., MCA	Safety culture act
	§24-1-206, et seq., MCA	Disturbance of schools
	10.55.505 ARM	Safety
	29 CFR 1910.1030	The Blood borne pathogens standard

Policy History:

Adopted on: 2008-09

Revised on: