

**Earthquakes**

The Board of Trustees adopts the following procedures and regulations pertaining to action taken by the District should an earthquake occur while school is in session and shall provide that all students and staff are familiar with those procedures.

Students and staff within buildings at the beginning of an earthquake should remain where they are, sitting or crouching below the level of desks and tables. When possible, movement should be away from windows and outside walls toward inner walls and doorways.

Students and staff outside the buildings at the beginning of an earthquake should immediately get as far away as possible from buildings and other elevated objects.

Staff in portable classrooms should turn off heating and lighting units immediately.

Students and staff in classrooms where hazardous chemicals or electrical services are present should vacate these rooms in the event of an earthquake. Such classes include, but are not limited to, general science, and crafts. Students and staff should move toward the interior of the building into the hall while avoiding those hallways in which skylights are located and areas adjacent to the end of halls where glass is present.

Students and staff should remain where they are following an earthquake until given further instruction. **In instances of major damage in the community, students may need to be attended for an extended period of time. In such circumstances, students must not be released at the end of the normal day until a parent or other responsible person calls for them.**

The Board of Trustees shall inspect the building for possible structural damage following an earthquake. If the building is founded to be weakened in any respect, it shall be evacuated.

Legal Reference: §20-7-1101, MCA School district emergency plans in seismic risk zones

**Procedural History:**

Promulgated on: 2008-09

Revised on: