



Pathway to the Future

District Safety Committee Newsletter

Safety Committee 17/18 School Year Calendar

January 9, 2018 1:30pm at
Ruskin Elementary

February 6, 2018 1:30pm at
Piedmont Middle School

March 6, 2018 1:30pm at
BUSD Corporation Yard

April 10, 2018 1:30pm at
Morrill Middle School

May 8, 2018 1:30pm at
BUSD District Office



Safety Committee Goals for the 2017-2018 School Year

- Develop a prioritized safety committee calendar to review and implement State and Federal required Safety Plans and Trainings.
- Take inventory of classroom emergency red backpacks and emergency ark at each site, standardize what should be included and what should be periodically replaced.
- Update and distribute Emergency Response Guides (Flip Charts) to all BUSD Sites.
- Provide our sites with support in crisis management training.



Safety Committee Participants:

Mayra Waller, Jill Tamashiro, Tina Choy, Virginia Pender, Kris Kamandulis, Gokcen Ceran, Anthony Alberts, Dan Norris, Esmeralda Torres, and Thomas Carroll (Co-Chair) and Miguel Cruz (Chair)



Safety Committee Updates:

BUSD Lead Sampling Program

As communicated in the BUSD Fall Safety Newsletter, the district has completed collection of all samples identified for each school site Lead Sampling Plan. These samples were tested at a laboratory certified by the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) for lead analysis and submission of those results were electronically sent to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). San Jose Water Company (SJWC) has provided our district with a copy of these results for all BUSD school sites tested. We are glad to report that from the 65 total samples tested, no samples reached the action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb). All results have been posted under the Maintenance, Operations and Transportation (MOT) Safety and Emergency Services Webpage.

Lastly, new legislation has passed requiring SJWC to collect samples from Preschools, Pre-Kindergarten, and Day Care facilities that are on public property within our distribution system area. The MOT department will be working on identifying these locations within BUSD and collaborating with SJWC on a lead sampling plan for these facilities. Once these lab results are received they will be shared accordingly. If you have any further questions regarding the BUSD Lead Sampling Program please contact Miguel Cruz, Director of MOT at (408) 923-1898.

Upcoming Emergency and Crisis Preparedness Training

With the recent approval of all BUSD Comprehensive School Site Safety Plans (SB 187) at the November board meeting, the BUSD Safety Committee will begin to coordinate efforts on what remains of the 17/18 school year to support all sites with Emergency and Crisis preparedness training. This training will include emphasis on the understanding of what is the district Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and School Site Incident Command System? How they relate to the certified school safety plan and creating awareness on the assigned roles identified within this structure. Also included will be earthquake awareness with employee responsibilities and necessary preparations for lockdowns. Participation from all staff is greatly appreciated as our goal is to enhance the emergency and crisis preparedness district wide.

Safety Newsletter Article:

School Safety Plans & Tips: How to Prevent Theft, Vandalism & Break-Ins

For many reasons, schools are frequently the target of vandalism, break-ins, and theft. For one, some people see schools as being owned by no one rather than being owned by everyone. Schools can also be a source of great frustration for the students that go there, so they may use vandalism as a way of expressing that stress.

But whatever the reason, it's important for schools to develop plans and strategies for preventing these issues from occurring. In this post, we'll discuss some of the best ways to prevent theft, vandalism and break-ins from happening at your school.

Prevent Break-Ins by Controlling Access

Keeping doors locked on weekends and when the building isn't in use is an essential tip for keeping your school safe from break-ins and theft. But what about when parts of the school are in use and others aren't? In this scenario, moveable gates are perfect for sectioning off a hallway and even entire wings of a building. These lockable gates also allow cleaning staff and other personnel to still move freely through the building. It might also behoove you to think about limiting access from other entry points, like lower-level windows. Consider planting thorny bushes to help deter would-be intruders from attempting a break into your school.

Use Warning Signs to Deter Vandalism

As simple as they may seem, posting clearly visible warning signs can be an extremely effective way to reduce the amount of unsupervised loitering and the problems that arise from such activities. Warning signs play a vital role in setting rules and expectations from your school and the school grounds. You can also clearly establish the school territory by using student art and gardens. These indicate that the school along with the grounds around it are monitored regularly and well cared for. People are much less likely to deface or break into a property that's in good condition compared to one that looks deserted and rundown. Remove any existing graffiti from locker or bathroom walls immediately.

Stop Theft by Securing Valuables

Any valuable equipment should be kept in a safe and secure place that's accessible only by authorized personnel. Storing things like expensive audio-visual equipment in the classroom or similar common areas leaves the equipment at risk. It could easily be damaged or even stolen when a faculty member isn't watching. You can also use carts to move expensive equipment from room to room so only one room has to be secured at a time.

Use Graffiti-Resistant Materials

Given their nature of privacy and being secluded, two things that vandals rely on, school bathrooms are frequently the target of vandalism. One way to prevent vandalism is to utilize materials that are resistant to graffiti and scratches. High-Density polyethylene (HDPE), for example is a durable plastic material that's highly resistant to graffiti. It can be used for a multitude of applications, including bathroom partitions, vanities, and lockers. In addition to helping to deter vandalism, this material is 100% resistant to rust.

Resource: Blog, School-Scranton Products, *School Safety Plans & Tips: How to Prevent Theft, Vandalism & Break-Ins*, Retrieved from: <https://www.scrantonproducts.com/school-safety-plans/>