



District Safety Committee Newsletter



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 back packs and emergency arch 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, Virginia Pender, Kris Kamandulis, Gokcen Ceran, Anthony Alberts, Dan Norris, Esmeralda Torres, Thomas Carroll (Co-Chair) and Miguel Cruz (Chair)

Safety Committee Upcoming 17/18 School Year Meeting Dates:

September 5, 2017 1:30pm at
BUSD Corporation Yard

October 3, 2017 1:30pm at
BUSD District Office

November 7, 2017 1:30pm at
Morrill Middle School

December 5, 2017 1:30pm at
Sierramont Middle School

January 2, 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 Updates

Comprehensive School Site Safety Plans

Since late September all BUSD School sites having been working hard to update the annual requirement of certifying all SB 187 plans for the 2017-2018 school year. These plans are designed to be utilized as a school resource and guide for prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery planning and training as well as functioning as a plan for meeting the requirements for the annual safety plans process under California SB187, the Comprehensive School Safety Plan Act and the National Incident Management System. The plan is also designed, as a living document to be updated as necessary to meet site, district and community needs, forms or requirements. As a District Safety Committee we are glad to report that all Comprehensive School Site Safety Plans have been approved by their individual school site safety planning committees, San Jose Police Department School Liaison Unit, and approval by the BUSD board during the November Board Meeting. Thank you all for your efforts and contributions in order to accomplish this certification and make BUSD a safer place!

Norovirus

At the conclusion of the 2016/2017 School Year Santa Clara County health officials confirmed that thousands of students in Northern California area had contracted the Norovirus including a hundred students at nine Berryessa Union School District schools. The Norovirus is a highly contagious virus which symptoms include: Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea, Stomach Cramps, Headaches, Fever and Dehydration. Transmission of this virus can be through eating food or liquids that are contaminated, touching contaminated surfaces and putting your fingers in your mouth, and close personal contact with someone that is infected.

In an effort to address and be proactive during the recent summer deep cleaning efforts all school custodial staff was equipped with a Mist Fogger/Blower manufactured by GenEon to spray a solution to disinfect bathrooms, classrooms, locker rooms, and all flooring. This equipment uses a solution that is safe for those occupying the building and can range from a sanitizer to an ultra high hospital grade disinfectant. The goal with outfitting our custodial staff with this additional equipment is to improve the effectiveness of sanitizing and disinfecting our facilities to eliminate all pathogens. This equipment can also be used as part of routine cleaning during the school year.

To prevent the future spreading of this disease please assist with promoting the following recommendations: thorough washing of hands is recommended before eating or after using the restroom, washing food and cooking food thoroughly, not preparing food when you are sick, washing contaminated clothing and cleaning contaminated surfaces with bleach solutions. We are glad to report that during the current school year no cases of Norovirus have been reported.

The Great California Shakeout

Thank you to all BUSD School Sites who participated in the Great California Earthquake Shakeout. As part of 10.5 Million participants across the state, your participation will ensure from a district standpoint we are better prepared for the next big earthquake. Please ensure as part of the process to hold post-drill discussion to hear what people learned and plan next steps accordingly. If your site requires additional support or resources please feel free to contact Miguel Cruz, Director of MOT.

Safety Committee Updates Continued: School Lead Sampling Program

The State Water Resources Control Board- Division of Drinking Water in collaboration with the California Department of Education has taken the initiative to begin testing drinking water in schools (K-12) for lead. As a result of a permit action by the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water on January 17, 2017, all community water systems are required to collect and analyze up to five water samples for drinking water fountains and regularly used drinking water faucets at a school, if the testing is requested by a superintendent or designee.

Lead rarely occurs naturally in California's drinking water sources, but may become present when water passes through older plumbing fixtures or solder containing lead that connects plumbing. As of June 22, 2017 a total of 110 schools in Santa Clara County have submitted their request to their respective community water system.

To ensure the quality of the drinking water is below the corrective action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) for all Berryessa Union School District (BUSD) schools, our district has prepared and official request signed by the superintendent to the San Jose Water Company to meet and collect samples for BUSD within 90 days or provide a lead sampling schedule to the local Division of Drinking Water District Office or Local Primary Agency if the Lead Sampling will take more than 90 days. Our district will be eligible to have all sites completed free of charge.

As of July 21, 2017 The District has submitted an official request to the San Jose Water Company for Lead sampling for all BUSD school sites. San Jose Water Company has provided confirmation for receiving our request and has supplied our district with a schedule to complete these efforts within the mandated window. During the week of August 14th our department with collaboration from the San Jose Water Company and school site principals have completed a Lead Sampling Plan for all BUSD school sites. All collection of samples according the lead sampling plan has been completed as of November 3, 2017.

Once results are received by a state certified lab they will be reviewed and shared with but not limited to the district board, school district, parents, students and/or other stakeholders accordingly. Our goal is to ensure drinking water at all our sites is safe to all. If you have any further questions regarding this Lead Sampling Program please contact Miguel Cruz, Director of MOT at (408) 923-1898.



Autumn Health and Safety tips

Follow these tips to help you and your family stay safe and healthy this autumn!

- Keep you kids safe and healthy
 - Get involved with your kids activities at home and at school to help ensure they are safe and healthy.
- Take steps to prevent the flu
 - The single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated each year in the fall. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Wash your hands often. Stay home if you get sick.
- Get smart about antibiotics
 - Antibiotics can cure bacterial infections, but not viral infections. The common cold and the flu are viral infections, so avoid using antibiotics if you have one of these. Using antibiotics when they are not needed causes some bacteria to become resistant to antibiotic, and therefore stronger and harder to kill. See your doctor or nurse to find out if your illness is bacterial or viral.
- Test and replace batteries
 - Check and replace carbon monoxide batteries twice a year when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. Replace smoke alarm alkaline batteries at least once a year. Test alarms every month to ensure they work properly.
- Keep food safe
 - Food is center stage during the holidays. Be sure to keep it safe by following basic safety steps. Clean hands and surfaces often. Separate foods to avoid cross-contamination. Cook to proper temperatures. Chill promptly.
- Be prepared for cold weather
 - Exposure to cold temperatures can cause serious health problems. Infants and the elderly are particular at risk, but anyone can be affected. Know how to prevent health problems and what to do if a cold-weather emergency arises. Remember that using space heaters and fireplaces can increase the risk of household fires and carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Wash you hands
 - Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. It's best to wash your hands with soap and clean running water for 20 seconds. IF that's not possible, use alcohol-based hand rubs.

Resource: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Center for Disease and Control Prevention Office of Women's Health

