

REUNIFICATION

Law enforcement has helped us establish safe marshalling areas on school grounds where we can take students for a relatively short period of time during an emergency.

If because of weather conditions or some other threat we need to move students to another location, each school has a designated Safe Site.

Once the threat is stabilized, parents will be notified when and how to pick up their student via our automated system (text, email, phone). Details will also be posted on our website, social media, and local news channels.

We have a system in place to reunite parents with their children. You or your **designated** emergency contact person must have a photo I.D. to pick up your student. You should list an emergency contact on your child's registration form.

The reunification site may be chaotic, so we ask for your patience. It is extremely important that we account for all children and staff and know who is taking them home.

AFTERMATH

If school needs to be temporarily closed or relocated, parents will receive automated texts, emails and/or phone calls. Information will also be posted on the BPS webpage, social media, and local news media.

Parents will naturally want to help their children cope with the disaster. We will have counselors and other Community Crisis Team members available to assist your student and family as you work through the emergency situation. We have also post resources on our district web site under District Alerts on the left.

Thank you for your help and support in keeping all kids safe. If you have comments or suggestions, call the school district's Safety Coordinator, (701) 323-4086, or the Community Relations office, (701) 323-4091.

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Student SAFETY AT SCHOOL



- **General Information**
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- **Reunification**
- **Aftermath**



INTRODUCTION

You send your children to Bismarck Public Schools to receive a quality education. First and foremost, you want your child to be safe and protected.

With the number of violent incidents and other crises that have occurred in U.S. schools in recent years, parents may worry about their child's safety.

BPS has a comprehensive district safety plan as well as individual school plans. Each school has a team trained to respond to emergencies such as tornados, bombings, fires, intruders, etc. By state law, all schools must hold lockdown, fire and tornado drills with students. Teachers have partners, in case there is a substitute teacher who is unfamiliar with emergency procedures or in the event that a classroom teacher is incapacitated during a crisis situation.

In a school emergency, parents are an important part of our team. How you respond can help or hinder emergency and school personnel. **Please read this document thoroughly!**

NOTE: BPS has policies on weapons, threats and harassment at www.bismarckschools.org under School Board, then Policies on the left. Search for FFD and AAC.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please observe the visitor policy at your school. Staff members do not know every parent, so stop at the office and get a visitor badge. Also, if you wish to visit a classroom, you must make a request to the principal two days before. Frequent classroom visits are discouraged to protect the learning environment and student confidentiality. To learn more, visit our Web site, www.bismarckschools.org, go to School Board, then the Policy link on the left, and type KMR into the Search box.

We encourage you to make doctor, dental, and other appointments before or after the school day. However, if you need to take your elementary or middle school student out of school early, go to the school office so your child can be called out of the classroom and you can sign him/her out.

Do NOT go directly to the classroom and then leave the building without notifying the office. We will assume your child is missing! For high school students, parents must call the school to give permission for students to check out early. Ask for the attendance office.

WINTER STORMS

By 5 am or so, the Superintendent will make a decision whether to close school, start late, and/or delay buses. Around 6 am, an automated notice will be sent to parents via text, email and phone. NOTE: given the size of our school district, this takes some time to load! You can also check for the same information online at www.bismarckschools.org, Facebook, etc. or listen to local news.

Once school is in session, we will not close due to student safety. Parents can pick up their child early if they feel they will be hindered by road conditions. See "General Information" in this brochure for check-out procedures.

DISASTERS/EMERGENCIES

Try to be patient. We know this will be **extremely difficult** but we are trying to ensure your child's safety.

Do NOT call your child's cell phone during a school crisis. You may put students and staff in danger who are hiding in lockdown!

Do NOT come to the school. You will be stopped because you and your vehicle may hamper rescue efforts you and endanger yourself and others. Stay where you are and watch for important messages from BPS!