

Emergency Preparedness

Overview of Planning and Response

March 6, 2018

Tucson Unified School District
School Safety Director Jeffrey Coleman

Objectives

- Recognize the Role of School Safety since taking over Emergency Management for the District 2015-16 SY
- Identify with plans and upgrades done to make schools safer
- Be familiar with completed Training and Drills in 17-18 YTD



Structure:

- School Safety undertook Emergency Planning in the 2015-16 SY.
- Two uniformed and armed Emergency Management Specialists divide District schools and sites, East and West of Alvernon Way.
- Department of School Safety staff provides support during drills or actual events.
- Emergency Response Trailer equipped with supplies (ADE grant) for use during an emergency on or off campus to accomplish evacuation and reunification of students with parents.

Plans:

- All schools have an updated and personalized emergency plan based on the ADE template.
- All schools have designated reunification sites for a walking and a bused evacuations.
- Central 1010 support team organized to respond and assist at a Reunification.

Training:

- In 2015-16, every District school staff was trained in the new procedures. Since then updated and ongoing training is provided for staff and administrators. Emergency Management has trained staff during PD sessions at 65 schools this year.
- Site-based training empathizes quickly locking down classrooms and remaining in place even in the event of a Fire alarm unless there is evidence of fire.
 - The site-based training exercises also tests systems such as lockdown buttons and PA systems.
- Emergency Procedures Basic Training provided for new monitors.
- School Safety Staff receives ongoing PD in Incident Command Structure (ICS), Emergency Planning for Schools, Active Shooter Response and seminars for lessons learned from previous mass casualty incidents.

Drills:

- Minimum of 2 Drills required by Board Policy per year, hard or soft lockdowns, off site evacuations, reverse evacuations, (getting everyone outside, or inside), or shelter in place. (used for weather or hazards such as chemical spills)
- This year to date, 110 drills have been conducted and Emergency Management and other Safety staff have been present and provided a thorough debriefing critique of 84 site drills.
- Highlights: Reverse Evacuation at THMS during a lunch period, an off-site Evacuation Drill held with at the Brichta Infant and Early Learning Center and an upcoming reunification drill to held with Carrillo Elementary and the Central 1010 support team at the TCC on March 16, 2018.

Prevention:

- We have instituted single point of entry to schools.
- Access Control Systems are in place at 31 sites, front door camera and intercom systems are in place at 37 schools, with 2 additional awaiting installation.
- Lockdown Panic buttons that lock electronic door systems and/or alert staff and the Office of School Safety of a lockdown is in place at 63 sites.
- Yellow Classroom Emergency Guides updated and distributed for every classroom. (Pima County Emergency Grant)
- Magnets for metal door frames and wood blocks for wood door frames distributed District wide to allow staff to keep doors locked and remove these barriers in a lockdown. (2500 magnets were grant funded)

Threat Assessment and Response:

- Actively investigated threats received by School Safety and law enforcement. This includes immediate and timely investigations completed by School Safety Officer response to residences of potential suspects and witnesses, regardless of the hour.
- School Safety works closely with school administrators in sharing investigative results that can be used for school consequences.
- School Safety Officer(s) are present on campus for a minimum of two days after a threat is made, regardless of the status of the offender.
- Investigative steps documented by School Safety in Track-It database.
- School Safety works closely with Communications and Leadership to inform the school community of the status through ParentLink.
- Staff training ongoing in electronic risk assessment, (social media), for violence potential
- Formal written threat assessment protocol in final draft to be rolled out in next few weeks.

New Threat Assessment Protocol

- Based on the ADE model with modifications requested after reviewed by Leadership.
- In development prior to the tragedy in Parkland, Florida.
- School Safety Officers being trained to facilitate use
- Will be rolled out to administrators in coming weeks

New Threat Assessment Protocol

- The protocol addresses:
 - Unknown perpetrator electronic, written or verbal threats
 - Transient threats (expression of anger or frustration, often intended as a joke)
 - Substantive threats (serious threat to harm others that involves a detailed plan and means)

New Threat Assessment Protocol

- A unknown perpetrator threat involves classification into a risk category with response protocols (pages 1-3)
- A substantive threat involves forming a full assessment team, (administrator, counselor-page 4), and following the eleven question format (pages 7-11)
- A transient threat resolution involves concurrence by a site Administrator and a Director, with documentation in a one page format (page 17)
- The evaluation includes a review of risk factors, plan development, access to weapons, and feelings of despair or hopelessness

New Threat Assessment Protocol

- The Substantive Threat Assessment is then scored and categorized as low, medium or high risk (page 11)
- Suggested school response protocols are then based on the threat level. (pages 12-14)

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Call School Safety

584-7676