SCHOOL CRISIS, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT,
AND MEDICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

Each school shall develop a written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan as defined below. The School Board will annually review each school’s plan. The School Board has the authority to withhold or limit the review of any security plans and specific vulnerability assessment components as provided in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, VA Code § 2.2-3705.2. In developing these plans, schools may consult the model School Crisis, Emergency Management, and Medical Emergency Response Plan developed by the Virginia Board of Education and the Virginia Center for School Safety.

The School Board designates the Assistant Director for Health, Safety, and Risk Management as Emergency Manager.

Each school shall annually conduct school facility safety audits as defined below, using the item-list developed by the Virginia Center for School Safety, in consultation with the Virginia Department of Education. The results of such school facility safety audits shall be made public within 90 days of completion and the Superintendent shall maintain a list of Division schools which have completed the audit.

The School Board may withhold or limit the release of any security plans and specific vulnerability assessment components as provided in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Va. Code 2.2-3705.2. The completed walk-through checklist will be made available upon request to the chief law enforcement officer of Alexandria or his/her designee. Each school shall maintain a copy of the school’s facility safety audit report, which may exclude such security plans, walk-through checklists, and vulnerability assessment, within the office of the school principal and shall make a copy of such report available for review upon written request.

“School crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan” means the essential procedures, operations, and assignments required to prevent, manage, and respond to a critical event or emergency, including natural disasters involving fire, flood, tornados, or severe weather, loss or disruption of power, water, communications or shelter, bus or other accidents, medical emergencies; including cardiac arrest and other life threatening medical emergencies; student or staff member deaths, explosions, bomb threats, gun, knife or other weapons threats; spills or exposures to hazardous substances; the presence of unauthorized persons or trespassers; the loss, disappearance or kidnapping of a student; hostage situations; violence on school property or at school activities; incidents involving acts of terrorism and other incidents posing a serious threat of harm to students, personnel, or facilities. The plan shall include a provision that the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund shall be contacted immediately to deploy assistance in the event of an emergency as defined in the emergency response plan when there are victims as defined in § Va. Code § 19.2-11.01, as well as current contact information for both.

“School safety audit” means a written assessment of the safety conditions in each public school to (1) identify and, if necessary, develop solutions for physical safety concerns, including building security issues and (2) identify and evaluate any patterns of student safety concerns occurring on school property or at school-sponsored events. Solutions and responses shall include recommendations for structural adjustments, changes in school safety procedures, and revision of
the School Board’s standards for student conduct.

Each school shall maintain records of regular safety, health and fire inspections that have been conducted and certified by local health and fire departments. The frequency of such inspections shall be determined by the School Board in consultation with the local health and fire departments. In addition, the school administration shall:

1. Equip all exit doors with panic hardware as required by the Uniform Statewide Building Code; and
2. Conduct all emergency preparedness drills described in Policy EBCA as required by the Virginia Board of Education and the Code of Virginia.

In accordance with Policy EBBA, school buildings with an instructional and administrative staff of ten or more shall have at least three employees with current certification or training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of an automated external defibrillator. If one or more students diagnosed as having diabetes attend such a school, there shall be at least two employees who have been trained in the administration of insulin and glucagon.

In addition, the school administration shall ensure that the school has:

1. Written procedures to follow in emergencies such as fire, injury, illness, and violent or threatening behavior. The plan shall be outlined in the student handbook and discussed with staff and students during the first week of each school year.
2. Space for the proper care of students who become ill; and
3. A written procedure for responding to violent, disruptive or illegal activities by students or others persons on school property or during a school sponsored activity.
4. Written procedures to follow for the lockdown and/or safe evacuation of persons with special physical, medical, or language needs that may need assistance to exit a facility.
5. For the purposes of safety, security and consistency, all communications, including all media interviews or approval for media interviews during an emergency or crisis, should be coordinated through the Office of Communications. In addition to various electronic communications, formal emergency or crisis communications concerning a school will be written on school letterhead and signed by the principal. Formal emergency or crisis communications concerning multiple schools or the Division as a whole will be written on Division letterhead and signed by the Superintendent. Information that has been put out by the Office of Communications can be freely disseminated.

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Amended: April 7, 2016
Amended: September 28, 2017

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 2.2-3705.2, 22.1-279.8
8 VAC 20-131-260.


Cross Refs:  
CLA Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse  
EBAA Reporting of Hazards  
EBBA First Aid/CPR Certified Personnel  
EBCA Emergency Preparedness Drills  
GBEB Staff Weapons in School  
IICB/IICC Community Resource Persons/School Volunteers  
JFC Student Conduct  
JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct  
JFC-R2 ACPS Honor Code  
JFCD Weapons in School  
JFCE Gang Activity or Association  
JHH Suicide Prevention  
KK School Visitors