

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT	Policy Code: EBB
Draft to Policy Committee: September 9, 2021 School Board First Read: October 6, 2021 School Board Second Read Adoption: October 20, 2021	Page 1 of 2 Category: Required

SCHOOL SAFETY

The Oyster River Cooperative School Board recognizes that effective learning and teaching takes place in a safe, secure and welcoming environment and that safe schools contribute to improved attendance, increased student achievement and community support. The practice of safety shall be considered a facet of the instructional programming of the District schools by incorporating concepts of safety appropriately geared to students at different grade levels.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for developing and maintaining a comprehensive safety plan for the District, taking into account applicable laws, regulations, Board policies, and best practices. The general safety plan will include the District-wide Crisis Prevention and Response Plan, and site-specific Emergency Response Plan for each school required under Board policy EBCA. General areas of emphasis shall include, but not be limited to: in-service training; accident recordkeeping; plant inspection; driver and vehicle safety programs; fire prevention; catastrophe planning; and emergency procedures and traffic safety problems relevant to students and employees. In addition, the district will have a district and student network and student security plan.

Each Principal shall be responsible for the supervision and implementation of safety programs in his/her school, inclusive of school buses, school grounds (including playgrounds), during authorized school activities (such as field trips), within school building(s) (including classrooms and laboratories), off school grounds during school sanctioned activities (including, but not limited to, work-based learning and internships), and in the use of online resources.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop a safe schools plan consistent with applicable law and school Board policies. While the plan need not be a single consolidated document, it should include:

1. Procedures that address the supervision and security of school buildings and grounds.
2. Procedures that address the safety and supervision of students during school hours and school-sponsored activities.
3. Procedures that address persons visiting school buildings and attending school-sponsored activities.
4. Training programs for staff and students in crisis prevention and management.
5. Training programs for staff and students in emergency response procedures that include practice fire and all hazard drills as required by law.
6. Training programs for staff and students in how to recognize and respond to behavior or other information that may indicate impending violence or other safety problems.
7. Procedures and training to implement employee and work-place safety.
8. Training and support for students that aims to relieve the fear, embarrassment and peer pressure associated with reporting behavior that may indicate impending violence or other safety problems.
9. Procedures for safe, confidential reporting of security and safety concerns at each school building.
10. Procedures for regular assessments by school security/safety professionals and law enforcement officers to evaluate the security needs of each school building and to provide recommendations for improvements if necessary.

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11. Procedures for periodic assessments by school climate professionals to determine whether students feel safe and to provide recommendations for improvements in school climate at each district building.
12. Procedures for managing the behavior of children, including, proper training and protocols relative to restraint and seclusions consistent with RSA 126-U and Board policy JKAA.
13. Procedures to provide for regular communications between district officials, law enforcement officers, fire department officials, city and county officials and local medical personnel to discuss crisis prevention and management strategies, including involvement by these parties in the development and revision of the District Crisis Prevention and Response Plan, and site-specific Emergency Response Plans per Board policy EBCA.
14. Training programs for staff and students in safety precautions and procedures related to fire prevention, natural disaster response, accident prevention, public health, traffic, bicycle and pedestrian safety, environmental hazards, civil defense, classroom and occupational safety, and special hazards associated with athletics and other extracurricular activities.
15. District and building level procedures to assure timely safe schools reporting to law enforcement the N.H. Department. of Education and the School Board as required under RSA 193-D:4.

Cross Reference:

Policy EBCA – Emergency Plans
Policy JKAA – Use of Child Restraint & Seclusion
Policy EAB – Data Governance & Security

Legal References:

RSA 193-D, Safe School Zones
RSA 193-F, Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention
RSA 281-A:64, Safety Provisions
N.H. Dept. of Education Administrative Rule – Ed. 306.04(a)(2), and 306.04(d), Promoting School Safety