

School District Safety Plan

Buffalo/Roc Academy of Science Charter School District-Wide Safety Team

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1. Introduction

1.1A Purpose, Scope and Relationship to Other Plans

Emergencies in schools must be addressed in an expeditious and effective manner. Schools are at risk of acts of violence, natural, and manmade disasters. To address these threats, the State of New York has enacted the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) law. Project SAVE is a comprehensive planning effort that addresses prevention, response and recovery with respect to a variety of emergencies in schools.

This emergency operations plan details how the school district will operate during critical incidents affecting students, faculty, staff or facilities. It is designed to provide guidance for personnel who discover or are notified of any emergency situation. The plan also aids in the resolution of the events by structuring levels of potential responses, each designed to address a corresponding level of threat.

1.B Incident Command System

The emergency operations plan is based on the nationally-recognized Incident Command System (ICS). ICS provides flexibility and adaptability to a wide variety of situations. It does this by establishing common standards in organization, procedures, communications and terminology. The system calls for the appointment of an incident Coordinator (IC), a person responsible for the overall coordination of a situation. An Incident Management Team (IMT) is also appointed to help manage a response. The IMT serves under the direction of the IC.

This plan recognizes the need to ensure direction and control for an incident affecting more than one site or school district. When such a situation exists, a unified command structure will be used under the direction of one IC. The concept of unified command means that all agencies and organizations having responsibility and authority at an incident will contribute to the process of:

- Determining overall response objectives
- Selecting response strategies
- Ensuring joint application of tactical activities
- Maximizing the use of available resources

1.C How Incidents will be Managed

Generally, emergency incidents will be managed and progress through the following steps:

- The IC determines the level of threat and sets proper response actions into motion. The IC notifies the members of the Incident Management Team (IMT) and consults with them as the situation and time permit.
- The IC directs faculty and staff on-scene to take additional steps in line with the level of threat.
- Faculty and staff follow the directives of the IC.
- When other sites, districts or agencies are involved, a unified command structure is employed.

1.D Role and Authority of Incident Coordinator and Incident Management Team

By adopting this emergency operations plan, the school district empowers the Incident Coordinator and Incident Management Team to take action as appropriate to protect students, faculty, staff, visitors, facilities and equipment during all critical incidents. The IC and IMT are authorized representatives of the Executive Director; their directives are to be followed.

1.E Chief Emergency Officer

Each year Buffsci's Board of Directors will assign a Chief Emergency Officer (Director of School Safety) who is responsible for coordinating communication between staff and law enforcement and first responders and for ensuring staff understanding of the district-level safety plan. The Chief Emergency Officer shall also be responsible for ensuring completion and yearly updates of building-level emergency response plans. The building-level emergency response plan shall be kept confidential and shall not be disclosed except to authorized department staff and law enforcement officers.

1.F *Procedures for Student Threats of Violence and Suicide*

To comply with recently enacted New York State legislation the District has developed procedures for contacting parents, guardians, or persons in parental relation to a student in the event of an implied or direct threat of violence by a student against themselves, including the threat of suicide. Additionally, the district has plans for screening and providing counseling services for witnesses and victims of violent incidents. Further detailed procedures are included in the individual school building emergency response plans.

2. Classifying the Level of Threat

2.A *“All Hazards” Approach*

This emergency operations plan uses an “all-hazards” approach, allowing it to be effective in any emergency situation. An “all-hazards” approach calls for an initial response based on the threat passed by the event, not the event itself. This is possible because many events, though widely different in nature, create similar risks to lives and property. As such, planning for potential levels of threat is often more effective than planning for the multitude of situations that could conceivably happen. Once an initial protective action has been taken, more detailed strategies and plans for resolving a particular situation can be implemented.

2.B *Levels of Threat*

The emergency operations plan uses three levels of threat to structure the district’s response. Characteristics of each level are discussed below. Examples are also given, although they are not meant to be a complete listing of possible situations that could occur.

Level I – Monitor

A Level I situation is one where a minor event occurs or may occur that could negatively affect one or more district facilities, students, faculty, and staff. It is characterized by the following:

- No immediate danger or emergency exists, but the potential is present.
- A minor incident occurs that appears to be of short duration
- The situation is limited in scope and can be managed by the appropriate administration.

Examples of a Level I situation include

- A severe storm watch issued by the National Weather Service
- A fire or hazardous materials incident within the district or within two (2) miles of a district facility
- A minor building system problem
- A local power outage

Level II – Standby

A level II situation is one where a risk exists or is about to occur that will impact one or more district facilities, students, faculty, or staff. This risk requires that a preparatory status be adopted. Level II is characterized by the following:

- The potential danger is real; district personnel should be prepared to react.
- The situation has the potential for expanding beyond a limited area.
- The situation may continue for an extended duration.
- Resolving the situation may require resources in excess of those available locally.

Examples of a Level II situation may include

- A severe storm warning by the National Weather Service
- A major fire or hazardous materials incident within one-half (1/2) mile of a district facility
- A major building system failure

- An incident at a district facility that, although being handled by the appropriate administration, may need additional district resources such as personnel, transportation, supplies, notifications, etc.

Level III – Emergency

Level III recognizes that risk is real and requires a response by the district. It is characterized by the following:

- Students, faculty, or staff are in danger; facilities are at risk. Immediate action is necessary.
- The incident is on district property, or it is off district property but close enough to affect a facility or involve district students or personnel.
- The situation requires the coordination of district resources or coordination with outside agencies.

Examples of a Level III situation include

- A fire or hazardous materials incident occurring at a district facility
- A major storm or weather event that is causing or has caused injury/damage
- A traffic accident involving students and/or district personnel
- Notification by competent authority that action is required due to a fire, hazardous materials incident, or other emergencies in or near a district facility

2.C Determining the Level of Threat

The process for determining the level of threat for any incident will be as follows:

- The IC, upon being notified of an incident, will determine the level of threat.
- The IC, either personally or through the IMT, will communicate the level of threat to those who need to know.
- The IC may modify the classification up or down as more information becomes available or as the situation changes.
- Any reclassification of the level of threat will be communicated by the IC, either personally or through the IMT.

3. General Response Options

3.A Limited Options Rationale

The nature of any response taken by the school district will be limited. This is because the ones who will be responsible for resolving the most serious incidents are police, fire, and emergency medical, emergency management, and utility personnel. The district's primary responsibility is to protect students, faculty, and staff.

3.B Options

There are six general response options available to the district in a critical incident. These options can be modified to fit the parameters of a particular event and the needs of a specific site.

Cancel School Prior to Start

Canceling school prior to starting means notifying students, faculty, staff, transportation, and facility managers that the school will not be open on a specific day. A variation of this option is to notify students and personnel that reporting times for a specific day have been changed. This option is available whenever district buildings are unoccupied and the time of day allows sufficient time for notifications. Procedures are as follows:

- The IC, with the concurrence of the Executive Director, will notify the IMT that the school is to be canceled or that reporting times have been changed.
- The IC and/or IMT will contact local media.
- The District all-call will be activated to notify all staff members and parents that the school is closed or that reporting times have been changed.

Early Dismissal

Early dismissal refers to releasing students, faculty, and staff prior to normal dismissal times. This option assumes there is a need to clear buildings while school is in session. This planning and coordination of transportation needs will be important. Early dismissal should be used only when it is safe to do so. Students, faculty, and staff should not be released if they will be exposed to more danger by leaving school facilities than they would if they remained under the district's control.

Procedures are as follows:

- The IC, either personally or through the IMT will notify on-site administrators that the school is to be dismissed early and of the time the dismissal should take place.
- The IC and/or IMT will notify local radio and television stations of the early dismissal.
- The IC and/or IMT will notify bus drivers and other general transportation personnel of the early dismissal.
- On-site administrators will be responsible for all - calls set up for parents.
- A 100% accounting of students will be completed and verified immediately preceding the dismissal.

Shelter-in-place

Shelter-in-place refers to protecting students, faculty, and staff within the buildings where they currently reside. This option can be used in two types of situations. First, there is no immediate threat to the structure of the facility itself, so all people can remain safe by staying inside. Second, the threat is such that any attempt to move students, faculty, and staff from the building would expose them to more danger than they would face by staying put. This option would most likely be used during a hazardous materials incident, such as the escape of a gas that could cause harm to those who inhale it. It might also be used if releasing students and personnel could interfere with law enforcement or firefighting activity in the area.

Procedures are as follows:

- The IC or public safety authorities will direct on-site administration to implement the shelter-in-place option.
- On-site administrators will determine whether sheltering should take place in classrooms or predetermined shelters within the confines of the buildings.
- Take steps to isolate students and personnel from the external environment during environmental or hazardous materials incidents. This should include closing all outside doors and windows and turning off A/C and air handling systems.
- All students, faculty, and staff should seek shelter by moving away from outside windows and doors as well as all air ducts and ventilation systems.
- A 100% accounting of students will be completed and verified.
- The IC or public safety authorities will notify on-site administrators when it is safe to resume normal operations.

HOLD-IN-PLACE

Restrict movement of students and staff within the building while dealing with short term emergencies.

Procedures are as follows:

- Listen for instruction about the situation and your actions (next steps)
- Students in hallways should return to their assigned classroom, if possible.
- Classroom teachers take attendance.
- Classroom instruction continues as normal.
- All other staff assist students as needed
- Listen for updates

EVACUATION

Evacuation is the removal of all students, faculty, and staff from district facilities. Designated safe areas for each facility should be pre-established with primary and secondary sites being identified. Routes to get to those designated safe areas should also be pre-established.

Procedures are as follows:

- A directive to evacuate can be issued by the IC or public safety authorities, in concurrence with the Executive Director.
- Evacuate students to the primary safe area unless directed to go to a secondary location or to a congregate care center established by public safety authorities.
- All persons will leave the facilities by moving along assigned routes.
- Remain calm and keep students as calm as possible.
- Close all doors behind you. **DO NOT LOCK DOORS.**
- A 100% accounting of students, faculty, and staff will be completed and verified.
- All students shall remain under the control and authority of the school district.
- All buses and cars will be moved as necessary to allow access of emergency equipment.
- All persons will remain in a safe area until receiving verbal notification from on-site administrators to return to the facility. **DO NOT CONSIDER THE BELL AS A SIGNAL TO RETURN; IT MIGHT BE A MALFUNCTION.**

LOCKOUT

Students and staff remain inside Locked School building during incidents that pose an imminent threat outside of the school

Procedures are as follows:

- Listen for instruction about the situation and your actions (next steps)
- Lock all exterior doors and windows.
- Leave blinds/lights as they are
- Take attendance
- After initial instructions, listen for updates
- Classroom instruction continues as normal.
- All outdoor activities are terminated
- Listen for updates.

LOCKDOWN

Lockdown is protecting students, faculty, and staff from an internal or external threat, such as a violent person, by excluding or isolating that threat. This option requires the ability to quickly secure classrooms, exterior doors, and the physical plant. The movement of students and school personnel should be limited; the protective cover should be sought.

Procedures are as follows:

- A lockdown may be initiated by any staff member who believes that there is an immediate threat to the safety of the building's occupants by calling the main office extensions, **HS 1011, MS 3002, ES 2001, BS2Elem 4001, BS2HS 1011**
- The lockdown code, “ LOCKDOWN! - LOCKDOWN! - LOCKDOWN! ”will be announced over the PA system.
- Onsite administrators will oversee the lockdown and, if possible, notify the IC when the procedure is completed.
- All students, faculty, and staff should move into isolated sections of classrooms and reduce exposure to outside windows and doors.
- A 100% accounting of students will be completed and verified.
- When possible, the IC and/or a member of the IMT will inform public safety authorities of the lockdown and ensure that appropriate public safety personnel.

Relocation

Relocation is very similar to evacuation in that it is the process of vacating district facilities. It could occur during an incident that does not directly threaten the school but where public safety authorities wish to use the premises as an emergency center. *Procedures are as follows:*

- A directive to relocate can be issued by the IC, in concurrence with the Executive Director (All public safety requests for relocation must go through the IC.)
- The IC will determine the location to where students will be moved following the school's management procedures in consultation with the IMT.
- Moving procedures are the same as evacuation.

4. Faculty/Staff: Initial Actions and Response

4.A Initial Actions: "What to do if You Discover an Incident"

Typically, incidents involving schools will come to the attention of a faculty or staff member by observation or telephone notification. *The first faculty/staff member discovering or receiving information about an incident will do the following:*

1. Call police, fire, or EMS if needed. The local emergency number is **911**
2. Activate the emergency system – Notify the IC, providing the following information:
 - Your name
 - Nature and location of property damage
 - The severity of injuries or property damage
 - Telephone number (as a call back)
 - Any other information that would assist with the initial response
3. Take action to protect students, faculty, staff, and property. This might include
 - Moving people away
 - Isolation and securing the area
 - Providing assistance as needed to students and personnel
 - Directing public safety responders to the scene

The district recognizes that catastrophic events can occur with little or no warning. Events such as earthquakes, tornadoes, and explosions may require taking action to protect lives prior to notifying the IC. Among the actions that might be taken are duck and cover.

Procedures for Duck and Cover

- If inside, use a desk or piece of furniture as a shield
 1. Drop to knees with your back to the window.
 2. Make your body as small as possible.
 3. Bury your face in your arms.
 4. Keep your eyes closed and ears covered.
- If outside, try to get behind any solid object
 1. Lie prone with your face away from the source of the event.

2. Cover head, face, and as much skin surface as possible.
3. Keep eyes closed and ears covered.

4.B Executing Decisions of IC and/or IMT

The school district has empowered and authorized the Incident Coordinator and Incident Management Team to direct the district's response to emergency situations. The IC will classify the levels of threat for all incidents and determine the appropriate actions based on the level assigned. On-site administrators may be notified of actions to be taken by either the IC or another member of the IMT, most likely the person serving as Operations. District personnel will follow and execute all directions and orders from the IC and/or IMT.

5. Incident coordinator

5.A Authorize Personnel and Responsibilities

The role of the Incident Coordinator (IC) is to manage and coordinate the school district's response to incidents affecting students, faculty, staff, and facilities. In that capacity, the IC may direct personnel, take actions and implement procedures as necessary to resolve issues related to the incident. The following individuals are authorized to assume the position of IC:

- **Primary IC LaMonica Harris**
PHONE 716 854 2490 ext: 5001
- **Backup IC MURAT Kucukdugenci**
PHONE 716 854 2490 ext: 1333

Once a person has assumed command of an incident, that person will remain the IC until relieved by choice or by the Superintendent. *The responsibilities of the IC are as follows:*

- Assume command.
- Classify the level of threat by matching situation facts to threat criteria.
- Take protective action to stabilize the scene.
- Select and establish an appropriate command post.
- Activate appropriate ICS functions.
- Establish a unified command structure with responding agencies, if necessary.
- Conduct initial briefing of the IMT.
- Set specific objectives and direct that incident action plans be developed.
- Brief all command post personnel on incident action plans.
- Continually review and update incident action plans with the IMT.
- Approve all incident information released to the news media.
- Set objectives and approve plans for returning to normal operations.

5.B Initial Steps upon Notifications

Upon being notified of an event, the IC will take the following initial actions:

1. Assume command.

- State he/she will serve as IC.
- Gather all available information.
- Ensure that emergency notifications have been made.
- Ensure that initial protective actions have been taken.

2. Classify the level of threat by matching the situation facts to threat criteria.

3. Direct additional actions based on the threat level and enhance protective actions already taken.

5.C Build and Maintain a Command Organization

As the incident continues and becomes more complex, the IC will need to delegate duties to others. This is done by activating the ICS functions that comprise the Incident Management Team. Which functions are activated and when that takes place will depend on the nature of the event confronting the district.

Specific actions to be taken by the IC are as follows:

- **Level I – Monitor**

1. Identify the command post (CP).
2. Notify the IMT, directing them to keep a minimum response capability to the CP.
3. Monitor the situation, updating the IMT as necessary and others as appropriate.

- **Level II – Standby**

1. Identify the command post (CP).
2. Notify the IMT, directing them to report to the CP.
3. Activate positions and assign duties as needed.
4. Develop incident action plans.
5. Take action as conditions dictate.

- **Level III – Emergency**

1. Identify the command post (CP).
2. Notify the IMT, directing them to report to the CP.
3. Activate positions and assign duties as needed.
4. Evaluate initial response options.
5. Order and execute actions.
6. Develop and implement action plans for incident resolution

5.D *Change of Command Procedures*

As stated earlier, once a person has assumed command of an incident, that person will remain as IC until he/she requests that another person take that role or until the Executive Director directs that another person will become the IC. *Should either of those events occur the change of command procedures for the Incident Coordinator will be as follows:*

- The IC will remain in command until relieved, either by choice or the Executive Director.
- The person being relieved will brief the person assuming command (face-to-face if possible) and address at least the following issues:
 1. Incident conditions
 2. Safety considerations
 3. Status of incident action plans
 4. Deployment of personnel and equipment
 5. Progress toward completion of tactical objectives
 6. Need for additional resources

5.E *Unified Command*

The district recognizes the need to ensure direction and control for an incident involving more than one site or school district and involving multiple responding agencies. When such a situation exists, a unified command structure will be used. A unified command structure means that all agencies and organizations that have responsibility and authority at an incident will contribute to its resolution.

The process for a unified command structure is as follows:

- All authorized response agencies and organizations will contribute to

1. Determining overall response objectives
2. Selecting response strategies
3. Ensuring joint planning and application of tactical activities
4. Maximizing the use of available resources

- There will be only one IC. When public safety agencies are on-scene, one will assume command. The school district's IC will brief public safety authorities in the same manner as a district change of command.
- The school district will be a valuable resource and will assist public safety authorities wherever possible.
- The school district will retain authority over students, faculty, and staff.

5. Incident Management Team

6.A *Role of the Incident Management Team*

The Incident Management Team (IMT) will be responsible for carrying out the directives of the IC. The principal IMT functions are listed below, along with the contact numbers for the people designated to fill them. Additional functions can be created and activated as needed.

- **Operations: Chief Operations Officer**
Phone 716 854 2490 - ext: 1333
- **Logistics: Supervisor of Operations**
Phone 716 854 2490 - ext: 3105
- **Plan & Intel: Director of Human Resources**
Phone 716 854 2490 - ext: 1136 or 1112
- **Adm/Finance: Director of Finance**
Phone 716 854 2490 - ext: 1135 or 1137
- **Public Information: Administrative Assistant**
Phone 716 854 2490 - ext: 1319
- **Safety: Director of School Safety**
Phone 716 854 2490 - ext: 5001
- **Liaison: Administrative Assistant**
Phone 716 854 2490 - ext: 1555
- **Incident Log/Scribe: Director of School Safety**
Phone 716 854 2490 - ext: 5001

6.B *Operations*

Operations manage all tactical operations of the incident, directing the implementation of action plans and strategies developed by the IC and IMT. *The responsibilities of Operations are as follows:*

- Supervise and direct the activities of all personnel assigned to the Operations section.
- Participate in planning sessions, concentrating on tactical objectives and operational strategies.
- Select or recommend perimeter assignments, staging area locations, and resource requirements/availability to the IC.
- Advise the IC of the readiness for tactical deployment of resources.
- Issue operational orders to implement directives of the IC.
- Supervise and direct tactical operations, utilizing available resources as required.

- Make expedient changes to the incident action plans based on field developments (with the concurrence of the IC.)
- Provide the IC with frequent incident status updates.
- Ensure an activity log is maintained and after-action reports are prepared and submitted.

Operations will carry out these responsibilities by performing the following activities for each level of threat:

- Level I – Monitor
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Maintain a minimum response capability to the command post (CP).
 3. Get periodic updates.
- Level II – Standby
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Report to the CP.
 3. Provide input on operation needs of incident action plans.
 4. Be prepared to initiate tasks if directed by IC.
- Level III – Emergency
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Report to the CP.
 3. Provide input on the evaluation of options.
 4. Execute actions as directed by the IC.

6.C Logistics

Logistics provides personnel, facilities, services, and other resources required for the incident. *The responsibilities of Logistics as follows:*

- Supervise and direct the activities of all personnel assigned to the Logistics section.
- Participate in planning sessions, concentrating on obtaining required resources and advising on their availability.
- Provide, maintain and control selected equipment, supplies, facilities, and services required by the Operations section.
- Establish and maintain communications.
- Stage resources so that they are readily available.
- Coordinate and process requests for additional resources.
- Assign security for the command posts, staging areas, and other sensitive areas as required.
- Maintain a visible chart of resources requested and advise the IC and Operations when resources are available for deployment.
- Direct that meals and refreshments will be provided as needed for all incident personnel.
- Ensure an activity log is maintained and after-action reports are prepared and submitted.

Logistics will carry out these responsibilities by performing the following activities for each level of threat:

- Level I – Monitor
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Maintain a minimum response capability to the command post (CP).
 3. Get periodic updates.
- Level II – Standby
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Report to the CP.
 3. Check communications capabilities.
 4. Provide input on logistical issues of incident action plans.
 5. Be prepared to initiate tasks if directed by IC.
- Level III – Emergency

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Operationalize a full emergency communications system.
4. Stage resources.
5. Call up resources as needed for tactical operations.

6.D Planning & Intelligence

Planning & Intelligence collects, evaluates, and disseminates the information needed to measure the size, scope, and seriousness of the incident and to plan an appropriate response. The person serving in this function should be prepared to tap resources both inside and outside the school district. *The responsibilities of Planning & Intelligence are as follows:*

- Provide briefing on incident size and scope to all personnel.
- Deploy and supervise personnel as needed to gather and assess intelligence information.
- Participate in planning sessions, concentrating on obtaining the information needed for decision making.
- Prepare estimates of incident escalation or de-escalation.
- Report to Safety the condition observed which may cause danger or be a safety hazard to personnel.
- Ensure an activity log is maintained and after-action reports are prepared and submitted.

Planning & Intelligence will carry out these responsibilities by performing the following activities for each level of threat:

- Level I – Monitor
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Maintain a minimum response capability to the command post (CP).
 3. Get periodic updates.
- Level II – Standby
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Report to the CP.
 3. Assess incident information.
 4. Be prepared to collect, evaluate and disseminate any additional information needed for incident action planning.
- Level III – Emergency
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Report to the CP.
 3. Activate all planning & intelligence functions.
 4. Collect, evaluate and disseminate information as the situation dictates.

6.E Administration/Finance

Administration/Finance handles the cost and financial matters of the incident. This generally includes overseeing the district's emergency procurement policy so that the essential resources for an effective response are available. It also encompasses managing the process of filing claims for loss, compensation, etc. *The responsibilities of Administration/Finance are as follows:*

- Participate in planning sessions, concentrating on financial and cost analysis issues.
- Assist Logistics with procurement of equipment, supplies, and other resources needed for incident resolution.
- Ensure that all personnel time records are maintained.
- Prepare incident-related cost analysis as requested by the IC.
- Respond to and evaluate incident-related compensation claim requests.
- Ensure an activity log is maintained and after-action reports are prepared and submitted.

Administration/Finance will carry out these responsibilities by performing the following activities for each level of threat:

●Level I – Monitor

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Maintain a minimum response capability to the command post (CP).
3. Get periodic updates.

●Level II – Standby

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Assess potential cost/financial impact of incident action plans.

●Level III – Emergency

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Provide cost/financial input on the evaluation of options.
4. Document all procurement, compensation, claims, and other costs of operations.

6.F Public Information

Public Information is responsible for the formulation and release of information regarding the incident to the news media and other appropriate agencies and personnel. The person serving in this function will represent the district in the eyes of the public and should be the only one authorized to release information to the media. All information and briefing material should be approved by the IC prior to being released. *The responsibilities of Public Information are as follows:*

- Establish a media information center.
- Obtain copies of all media releases and post them in the CP for review.
- Prepare an information summary on media coverage for command post personnel.
- Obtain approval from the IC for the release of information to the news media.
- Provide press briefings and news releases as appropriate.
- Arrange for meetings between the news media and incident personnel as directed by the IC.
- Provide escort service for the media and other officials as necessary.
- Maintain a log of all activities.

Public Information will carry out these responsibilities by performing the following activities for each level of threat.

●Level I – Monitor

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Maintain a minimum response capability to the command post (CP).
3. Get periodic updates.

●Level II – Standby

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Assess information needs of the media and other appropriate agencies.
4. Be prepared to release information as directed by the IC.

●Level III – Emergency

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Activate the media information center.
4. Prepare press releases.
5. Coordinate and release information as directed by the IC.

6.G *Safety*

Safety's mission is to help prevent injuries from occurring to anyone involved in the incident. The person serving in this function is the only person other than the IC who has the authority to stop an authorized plan from being put into action. Safety must be prepared to intercede to protect lives at any time, in whatever manner is necessary. *The responsibilities of Safety are as follows:*

- Participate in planning sessions, concentrating on issues of safety for both those caught up in the incident and those responding to it.
- Monitor operational activities to assess potential danger and unsafe conditions.
- Correct unsafe acts or conditions through regular lines of authority when possible.
- Invoke EMERGENCY AUTHORITY to immediately correct unsafe acts when time is of the essence.
- Monitor stress levels of personnel involved in the response.

Safety will carry out these responsibilities by performing the following activities for each level of threat:

- Level I – Monitor
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Maintain a minimum response capability to the command post (CP).
 3. Review applicable safety regulations and procedures.
 4. Get periodic updates.
- Level II – Standby
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Report to the CP.
 3. Be prepared to provide input on safety issues related to incident action plans.
- Level III – Emergency
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Report to the CP.
 3. Assist in the formulation of incident action plans.
 4. Monitor activities, assessing potential danger and unsafe acts.
 5. Exercise EMERGENCY AUTHORITY to stop unsafe acts when necessary.

6.H *Liaison*

Liaison serves as the point of contact for responding agencies (law enforcement, fire, emergency medical, utilities, etc.) and other school districts that may be involved in the incident. This includes initiating and negotiating mutual aid agreements with these agencies and districts. Liaison usually manages the Agency Representative, coordinating personnel assigned to the district's command post by responding agencies. He/she also manages any Agency Representatives activated by the district and sent to another command/operations posts to coordinate activities there. *The responsibilities of Liaison are as follows:*

- Identify representatives from and maintain contact with each responding agency, including communication links and locations of all assisting personnel.
- Handle requests from command post personnel for inter-organizational contacts.
- Monitor operations to identify current/potential inter-organizational problems.
- Provide information to appropriate governmental agencies.
- Maintain an activity log.

The liaison will carry out these responsibilities by performing the following activities for each level of threat:

- Level I – Monitor
 1. Get a briefing from the IC.
 2. Maintain a minimum response capability to the command post (CP).

3. Cross-check contact names and numbers of anticipated agencies that may respond.
4. Get periodic updates.

●Level II – Standby

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Verify contact information as potential responding agencies are identified.

●Level III – Emergency

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Identify agency representatives from each responding organization.
4. Coordinate with IC and Operations on implementation of incident action plans.
5. Handle requests for inter-organizational contacts.
6. Monitor operations to identify current/potential inter-organizational conflicts.

6.I *Incident Log/Scribe*

Incident Log/Scribe is charged with keeping a written log of all incident events and updating appropriate command post personnel on significant developments. This function is crucial as it serves as the basis of documenting the information needed to effectively manage an incident and to prepare the after-action reports and claims needed for the district to resume normal operations. The information captured by the Incident Log/Scribe also serves as the cornerstone for analysis and training that will aid the district's response to future events. *The responsibilities of Incident Log/Scribe are as follows:*

- Maintain a command post journal, including minutes from command post briefings.
- Periodically distribute "situation reports" to command post personnel.
- Refer pertinent information to Public Information.
- Maintain and display an updated map of the incident location.

Incident Log/Scribe will carry out these responsibilities by performing the following activities for each level of threat:

●Level I-Monitor

1. Get a briefing from the IC, recording initial assessment of situations and times.
2. Maintain a minimum response capability to the command post (CP).
3. Gather appropriate logs, forms, and supplies that could be used.
4. Get periodic updates, recording current assessment, activities, and times.

●Level II – Standby

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Maintain a journal of significant events and decisions, including times and other important data.
4. Make pertinent information available to command post personnel as they arrive.

●Level III – Emergency

1. Get a briefing from the IC.
2. Report to the CP.
3. Maintain a journal of significant events and decisions, including times and other important data.
4. Distribute a "situation report" at the direction of the IC to other CP personnel.
5. Refer pertinent information to Public Information.
6. Maintain custody of important documents and resources that are used in the CP.

6.J *Change of Command Procedures for the IMT*

The change of command procedures for the Incident Management Team will be as follows:

- A person serving in an IMT function will continue to do so until the IC directs a change of command.

- The person being relieved will brief the individual assuming command, face-to-face, if possible.

This briefing should address at least the following issues:

1. Incident conditions.
2. Safety conditions.
3. Status of incident action plans.
4. Assignment and deployment of personnel and equipment under the direction of that IMT function.
5. Appraisal of need for additional resources.
6. Any other issue applicable to that IMT function.

RESOURCES

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Buffalo

UNITED WAY	716-887-2626
BELMONT	716-884-7791
CATHOLIC CHARITIES	716-281-1400
RED CROSS	716-886-7500
SALVATION ARMY	716-883-9800
FEEDMORE WNY	716-852-1305

CRISIS SERVICES	716-834-3131
ERIE COUNTY FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES	716-891-2006
CITY OF BUFFALO YOUTH SERVICES	716-851-5177
CITY OF BUFFALO SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING SRV	716-886-2137
NATIONAL CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME	1-800-394-2255
ERIE CO DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	716-858-6478
NYS DEPT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	1-800-342-3715

Community Resources ROCHESTER

UNITED WAY of Rochester	585-242-6400
ROCHESTER HOUSING AUTHORITY	585-697-7180
CATHOLIC CHARITIES FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	585-546-7220
RED CROSS of Rochester	585-241-4400
SALVATION ARMY	585-987-9540
FOODLINK	585- 328-3380
MOBILE CRISIS TEAM	585-529-3721
MONROE COUNTY CHILD & FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES	585-753-6296

CENTER FOR YOUTH	585-473-2464
MONROE CO ADDICTION SERVICES	585-753-6047
NATIONAL CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME	1-800-394-2255
MONROE CO DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	585-753-6960
NYS DEPT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	1-800-342-3715

SAMPLE PARENT LETTERS

Sample Letter (Overview of safety drills) - Sent annually

(DATE)

To All Parents and Guardians:

Thank you for choosing BuffSci! We are proud to be able to serve you and your child(ren) and we will continually strive to provide a safe learning environment for them.

The safety of your child and all children in our schools as well as the safety of our staff and is very important to us. In order to maintain a safe environment for our children to study and learn, it is necessary that we practice our emergency and crisis response plans by having drills designed to exercise our procedures.

Due to the current national climate that we live in, we will be conducting various drills throughout the remainder of the school year, and each subsequent school year. This letter is to help you understand the importance of this as well as to understand each type of drill.

The students and staff of your school will be practicing (**twelve 12**) primary emergency drills each year. They are “**FIRE DRILLS**”; “**LOCKDOWN DRILLS**”; “**SHELTER-IN-PLACE DRILLS**”, and “**EVACUATION DRILLS**”. Each type of drill is explained below.

FIRE DRILLS

The school will conduct “fire drills” throughout the school is in session. This is a fire code requirement as well as a requirement for all NYS public schools. We want each student to understand and be aware of the importance of this drill and not be afraid when the fire alarm is sounded. By practicing they will know what to do and how to do it in the event of a real emergency.

LOCKDOWN DRILLS

The school will conduct “Lockdown Drills” periodically throughout each school year. This type of drill will secure the school building and safely shelter all students, staff and visitors inside the building. The purpose of this drill is to keep the students safe from any danger outside or inside the building. During a “lockdown drill” all of the perimeter doors to the school building will be locked and will remain locked until the danger or issue outside or inside the building is removed. To ensure the safety of everyone, no one will be allowed to enter the building or leave the building until the drill is completed.

SHELTER-IN-PLACE DRILLS

The “Shelter-in-Place” drills will be conducted throughout the school year. The purpose of this drill is to be prepared to move to a safe location within the building.

EVACUATION DRILLS

During an “Evacuation Drill”, students will be safely escorted along a designated evacuation route to one of our predetermined evacuation sites. At the conclusion of the drill, all students will be escorted back to the school.

For the safety of everyone involved and to maintain order, we respectfully ask that you would abide by the following during these drills:

- Do not come to the school campus
- Do not call the school offices (as they will be busy with the drill or actual emergency)
- Do not contact students or staff members via cell phone or social media (as they will be busy with the drill or actual emergency)
- Avoid social media posts. Correct information will be disseminated through our automated system as soon as possible.
- Please make sure that your contact information is current at all times so that you can be reached without delay in the event of an emergency.
- In the event of an actual emergency evacuation, you will receive notification where to pick up your child as soon as practicable.

Please remember that these safety practice drills are done to help maintain our schools as a safe place to learn and work.

If you have any questions regarding any of these Safety Drills or other safety concerns, please contact your school office, or the office of the superintendent.

Sincerely,

(Principal)

Sample letter 2 - Lockdown Letter - (Parents are to be notified 10-14 days prior to a practice drill)

Date

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to inform you of the school's lockdown drill that is due to take place on [Day & Date]. As required by NYS BuffSci will conduct 4 lockdowns during the school year. Prior to the lockdown drill teachers will speak with the students to explain how the drill will be conducted, what to expect and address any concerns.

During a lockdown, staff members will keep students indoors in a room, rather than use outdoor areas, open spaces or corridors. The drill will be timed to ensure it causes the least possible disruption to students' learning, while providing a test of the lockdown procedures and protocols.

It is essential we carry out this drill, so that in the case of a real emergency situation, staff are fully rehearsed in their responsibilities and duties, and in order to identify any potential areas for improvement.

Staff members will be instructed to remain calm at all times, so that students do not get distressed. The drill process will be explained to students beforehand. We hope the lockdown procedure will never have to be used, however we need to ensure we are fully prepared for all situations.

The school's lockdown procedure will come into effect in the following circumstances:

- In the event that an unauthorized person(s) considered dangerous, are on school grounds.
- In instances where people on the school site become a threat to the wellbeing of others.

During the lockdown drill, the following procedures/protocols will be practiced:

- Teachers will direct students inside, by the nearest entry point. (If students are outside)
- Teachers will close and lock all exterior doors.
- All windows will be secured and blinds closed.
- Teachers will reassure students throughout the procedure.
- Students will be directed away from doors and windows.
- Nobody will be allowed in or out of any building for the duration of the drill.
- **During the lockdown, no one will be permitted to leave the classroom and will not be allowed to use mobile phones under any circumstances.**

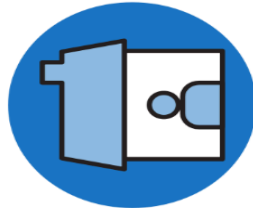
If you have any concerns or questions, please contact (YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION)

Principal

NY STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE **S.H.E.L.L.**

SCHOOL NAME:

911 ADDRESS:



SHELTER-IN-PLACE

SHELTER STUDENTS AND STAFF INSIDE THE BUILDING BECAUSE IT IS SAFER INSIDE THE BUILDING THAN OUTSIDE.

ACTIONS:

- Listen for instructions about the situation and your actions.
- Students in hallways should return to assigned classroom, if possible.
- Classroom teachers, take attendance.
- All other staff assist students, as needed.
- Move away from windows, if situation warrants.
- If instructed, move out of classroom to designated safe area. Stay together at all times.
- Take Attendance.
- Listen for updates.



HOLD-IN-PLACE

RESTRICT MOVEMENT OF STUDENTS AND STAFF WITHIN THE BUILDING WHILE DEALING WITH SHORT TERM EMERGENCIES.

ACTIONS:

- Listen for instructions about the situation and your actions.
- Students in hallways should return to assigned classroom, if possible.
- Classroom teachers, take attendance.
- All other staff assist students, as needed.
- Listen for updates.

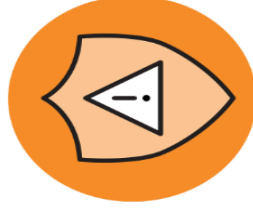


EVACUATE

EVACUATE STUDENTS AND STAFF FROM THE BUILDING.

ACTIONS:

- Listen for instructions about the situation and your actions.
- Lead students to designated assembly or announced assembly area. Use secondary route, if necessary.
- Bring attendance list and class roster.
- Close the classroom door after exiting.
- Take attendance when safe to do so.
- If evacuating off site, take attendance before moving from and upon arrival at off site location.
- Listen for updates.

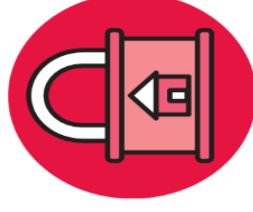


LOCKOUT

STUDENTS AND STAFF REMAIN INSIDE LOCKED **SCHOOL BUILDINGS** DURING INCIDENTS THAT POSE AN IMMINENT CONCERN OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL.

ACTIONS:

- Listen for instructions regarding the situation and your actions.
- Lock all exterior doors and windows.
- Leave blinds/lights as they are.
- Take Attendance.
- After initial instructions, listen for updates.
- Classroom instruction continues as normal.
- All outdoor activities are terminated.
- Listen for updates.



LOCKDOWN

SECURE STUDENTS AND STAFF INSIDE LOCKED **CLASSROOMS** DURING INCIDENTS THAT POSE AN **IMMEDIATE THREAT OF VIOLENCE** IN OR AROUND THE SCHOOL.

ACTIONS:

- When you hear LOCKDOWN, LOCKDOWN, LOCKDOWN announced, move quickly to execute the following actions.
- If safe, gather students from hallways and common areas near your classroom.
- Lock your door. Barricade if necessary.
- Move students to a safe area in the classroom out of sight of the door.
- Leave windows, blinds/lights as they are.
- Keep everyone quiet. Silence cell phones.
- Take attendance, if possible.
- Do not communicate through door or answer room phone.
- Do not respond to P.A. announcements or fire alarm.
- Stay hidden until physically released by law enforcement personnel.

