West Ada School District, Meridian

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Series 500

Policy Title: Emergency and Disaster Preparedness

Code No. 504.20

All district staff and students must be prepared to respond quickly and responsibly to emergencies, disasters, and events which threaten to result in a disaster.

The superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a district crisis plan which details provisions for handling foreseeable emergencies and disasters. It is recommended that this plan be reviewed and updated regularly.

Principals shall augment the district plan with working site crisis plans and appropriate procedures specific to each school building/site. All students and employees shall receive appropriate instruction regarding these procedures.

The superintendent or designee shall consult with city and/or county agencies so that district and site plans may provide the best possible way of handling each situation. These consultations should also consider emergency communications systems between these agencies and each district school.

District and site plans shall address, but will not be limited to, the following situations:

A. Fire in a building.
B. Fire from an external source, i.e., brush, grass, or forest fires.
C. Bomb threats or actual events.
D. Natural disasters, i.e., floods, severe weather, or earthquakes.
E. Man-made disasters, i.e., riots, accidents involving aircraft, or hazardous materials.
F. Threats, attacks, or disturbances from groups or individuals.
G. Other threats to students’ health and safety, i.e., suicide.

The board shall grant the use of school buildings, grounds and equipment to public agencies, including the American Red Cross, for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare. The board shall co-operate with such agencies in furnishing and maintaining whatever services it deems necessary to meet the community’s needs.

Crisis plan teams shall meet annually at each district site to review the crisis plan and develop the sites drill schedule.

The board encourages all employees to become proficient in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the Automated Emergency Defibrillator (AED). Each principal shall encourage staff members at each school to hold valid certificates in these areas.

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