

CRISIS PLAN

A primary responsibility of public schools is to provide a safe and secure environment for students, employees, and the public. A standard of reasonable care under the doctrine of *in loco parentis* compels our district to establish clearly defined policies and protocol for responding to crises.

A school crisis is defined as an event that threatens the safety and security of students and/or staff, is likely to escalate in intensity, interfere with normal functioning of the school, or interfere with learning. It is the policy of Sheridan County School District #1 to respond quickly and effectively to crises in our schools by:

1. Developing, implementing, annually evaluating and periodically updating the District Crisis Management Plan. This plan will establish a District Crisis Management Team and Plan based on to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Incident Command Structure (ICS) with provisions for safe building environments, procedures for communication with the media, and a system for coordinated community planning.
2. Mandating the development of site-based crisis management plans in each building consistent with the District Crisis Management Plan. These plans will include specific issues and protocol for crisis management teams, systematic training for staff, and dissemination of information to the community and the media.
3. Training all school personnel in crisis management to their level of job responsibility. Crisis management protocol will be reviewed annually by all staff.

Each crisis plan will include the following:

- Prevention: procedures designed to avoid, when possible, crisis events at school.
- Intervention: protocol for students and district personnel to manage and respond appropriately to crisis events.
- Post-vention: procedures and responses to help affected people to cope with physical, social and emotional pain and trauma after a crisis and to learn from the experience.

4. Lists of community resources and community resource agencies will be made available.

All existing district and site-based emergency and crisis plans will be reviewed to conform to the guidelines established through this policy. Administrative regulations and procedures will be developed to assure implementation of this policy.

Adopted: 9/16/03

Revised: 05/14/13; 2/18/20