
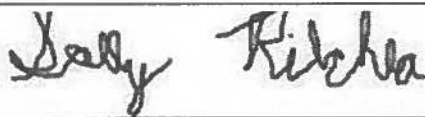
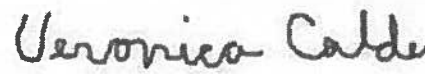
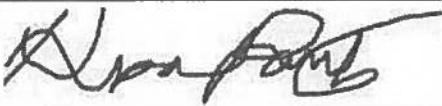



# Comprehensive School Safety Plan

2021-22  
School Year

**School:** Academy for Academic Excellence  
**CDS Code:** 36750773630837  
**District:** Lewis Center for Educational Research  
**Address:** 17500 Mana Rd.  
 Apple Valley, CA  
**Date of Adoption:** March 8, 2021  
**Date of Update:** February 2, 2021  
**Date of Review:**  
 - with Staff March 1, 2021  
 - with Law Enforcement February 26, 2021  
 - with Fire Authority February 26, 2021

**Approved by:**

Name	Title	Signature	Date
Valli Andreasen	School Principal		
Sally Ritchea	School Safety Planning Committee representative		
Veronica Calderon	School Site Council representative		
Lisa Lamb	CEO/President		
Deputy Brandon Clancey	Law enforcement representative		
Brian Pachman	Fire department representative		3-29-2021



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## **Comprehensive School Safety Plan Purpose**

Effective January 1, 2019, Assembly Bill 1747 (Rodriguez), School Safety Plans, became law. This bill requires that during the writing and development of the comprehensive school safety plan (CSSP), the school site council or safety committee consult with a fire department and other first responder entities in addition to currently required entities. It requires the CSSP and any updates made to the plan to be shared with the law enforcement agency, the fire department, and the other first responder entities.

The California Education Code (sections 32280-32288) outlines the requirements of all schools operating any kindergarten and any grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to write and develop a school safety plan relevant to the needs and resources of that particular school.

In 2004, the Legislature and Governor recast and renumbered the Comprehensive School Safety Plan provisions in SB 719 and AB 115. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting the provisions to support California public schools as they develop their mandated comprehensive safety plans that are the result of a systematic planning process, that include strategies aimed at the prevention of, and education about, potential incidents involving crime and violence on school campuses.

The historical requirement of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan was presented in Senate Bill 187, which was approved by the Governor and chaptered in 1997. This legislation contained a sunset clause that stated that this legislation would remain in effect only until January 1, 2000. Senate Bill 334 was approved and chaptered in 1999 and perpetuated this legislation under the requirement of the initial legislation.

Comprehensive School Safety Plans are required under SB 719 & AB 115 and contains the following elements:

Assessment of school crime committed on school campuses and at school-related functions

- Child abuse reporting procedures
- Disaster procedures
- Suspension and expulsion policies
- Procedures to notify teachers of dangerous pupils
- Discrimination and harassment policies
- School wide dress code policies
- Procedures for safe ingress and egress
- Policies enacted to maintain a safe and orderly environment
- Rules and procedures on school discipline
- Hate crime reporting procedures

The Comprehensive School Safety Plan will be reviewed and updated by March 1st every year. In July of every year, the school will report on the status of its school safety plan including a description of its key elements in the annual school accountability report card.

A copy of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan is available for review at 17500 Mana Rd., Apple Valley, California 92307.

## **Safety Plan Vision**

Academy for Academic Excellence has developed this Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP) to ensure a safe learning environment and site based emergency preparedness for all students, faculty and staff. The CSSP is intended to ensure compliance with State and Federal school safety program regulations.

Academy for Academic Excellence (AAE) shall have a Board approved Safety Plan to deal with natural and manmade disasters. The AAE Safety Plan acts as the umbrella, which encompasses all AAE personnel, property and actions during an emergency situation. Its purpose shall be to inform AAE personnel, students, and parent/guardians of actions which will be taken during emergency situations. It establishes the standards for all emergency operations school-wide and is based on the California Department of Education required components for a comprehensive school safety plan. It also establishes the requirements for regular school-level practice drills to familiarize students and personnel with proper procedures in the event of a disaster. This AAE Safety Plan shall be reviewed annually and updated as needed.

## Components of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan (EC 32281)

### Academy for Academic Excellence Safety Committee

Valli Andreasen (Principal), Sally Ritchea (Vice Principal), Lisa Longoria (Vice Principal), Gustavo Congo (Child Psychologist), Heather O'Bler (School Nurse), Genevieve Cook (School Counselor), Ryan Chamberlain (Facilities Manager), Trevor Aydelott (Parent), Shawna Lorz (Parent), and Sergio Tejada (Parent)

### Assessment of School Safety

A School Safety assessment was completed on September 28, 2020.

In meetings--SSC, Parents & Pastries, Safety Committee, Staff--the following information is reviewed:

- Student Behavior Incident Reports
- Attendance Rates
- Suspension/Expulsion data
- Parent/Student Climate Surveys

### Strategies and Programs to Provide and Maintain a High Level of Safety (EC 32281(a)1, items A-J)

The site complies with existing laws related to school safety included, but not limited to the following sections:

#### (A) Child Abuse Reporting Procedures (EC 35294.2 [a] [2]; PC 11166)

Child abuse or neglect includes the following:

- A physical injury or death inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person
- Sexual abuse of a child, including sexual assault or sexual exploitation, as defined in Penal Code 11165.1
- Neglect of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.2
- Willful harming or injuring of a child or the endangering of the person or health of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.3 5. Unlawful corporal punishment or injury as defined in Penal Code 11165.4

Child abuse or neglect does not include:

- A mutual affray between minors.
- An injury caused by reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of his/her employment.
- An injury resulting from the exercise by a teacher, vice principal, principal, or other certificated employee of the same degree of physical control over a student that a parent/guardian would be privileged to exercise, not exceeding the amount of physical control reasonably necessary to maintain order, protect property, protect the health and safety of students, or maintain proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning.
- An injury caused by a school employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to persons or damage to property, to protect himself/herself, or to obtain weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of the student.
- Physical pain or discomfort caused by athletic competition or other such recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by the student.

Mandated reporters include, but are not limited to: teachers; instructional aides; teacher's aides or assistants; classified employees; certificated pupil personnel employees; administrative officers or supervisors of child attendance; administrators and employees of a licensed day care facility; Head Start teachers; district police or security officers; licensed nurse or health care provider; and administrators, presenters, and counselors of a child abuse prevention program. Reasonable suspicion means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing when appropriate on his/her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect.

#### Reportable Offenses

A mandated reporter shall make a report using the procedures provided below whenever, in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment, he/she has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. Any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or who reasonably suspects that a child is suffering serious emotional damage or is at a substantial risk of suffering serious emotional damage, based on evidence of severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or untoward aggressive behavior toward self or others, may make a report to the appropriate agency. Any person shall notify a peace officer if he/she reasonably believes that he/she has observed the commission of a murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act by use of force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury, where the victim is a child under age 14.

#### Responsibility for Reporting

The reporting duties of mandated reporters are individual and cannot be delegated to another person. When two or more mandated reporters jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, the report may be made by a member of the team selected by mutual agreement and a single report may be made and signed by the selected member of the reporting team. Any member who has knowledge that the member designated to report has failed to do so shall thereafter make the report. No supervisor or administrator shall impede or inhibit a mandated reporter from making a report. Any person not identified as a mandated reporter who has knowledge of or observes a child whom he/she knows or reasonably suspects has been a victim of child abuse or neglect may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate agency.

#### Reporting Procedures

It is the policy of AAE that child custodians immediately report known or suspected child abuse by telephone to the Director, San Bernardino County CWS Agency (385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 5th Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415, 800-827-8724 , 909-350-4949, 909-422-3266 nights, [www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us](http://www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us)) Suspected sexual assault should be reported to Child Protective Services when a family member is the suspect; all other suspected sexual assaults should be reported directly to the respective law enforcement agency.

If someone other than the child care custodian makes the call to the respective protective agency, the child care custodian who first suspected child abuse or sexual assault is legally responsible for ensuring that the call was actually made.

Notify and request, if needed, the assistance of the Lewis Center for Educational Research Administrative staff or designee for non-investigative purposes only. The telephone report must be made immediately, or as practically possible, upon suspicion. The report will include:

- a. The name of the person making the report
- b. The name of the child.
- c. The present location of the child.
- d. The nature and extent of any injury.
- e. Any other information requested by the child protective agency, including the information that led the mandated reporter to suspect child abuse.

When the verbal report is made, the mandated reporter shall note the name of the official contacted, the date, and time contacted, and any instruction or advice received.

1. Within 36 hours of making the telephone report, the mandated reporter shall complete and mail to the local protective agency a written report.
2. Employees reporting child abuse to a child protective agency are encouraged, but not required, to notify the site administrator or designee as soon as possible after the initial verbal report by telephone. When so notified, the site administrator shall forward the information to the Lewis Center for Educational Research Administrative Office.

Administrators so notified shall provide the mandated reporter with any assistance necessary to ensure that reporting procedures are carried out in accordance with the law and the Lewis Center for Educational Research regulations. At the mandated reporter's request, the site administrator may assist in completing and filing the forms and in working with any responding law enforcement official.

If the mandated reporter does not disclose his or her identity to a Lewis Center for Educational Research Administrator, a copy of the written report should be provided to the Lewis Center for Educational Research Administration without his or her signature or name.

## **(B) Disaster Procedures (EC 35295-35297; GC 8607 and 3100)**

### **Disaster Plan (See Appendix C-F)**

The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) provides the model for emergency operations. During a disaster the SEMS serves as an "incident command system" (ICS) with a manager (the "incident commander") to coordinate leaders in each of four areas—operations, planning/intelligence, logistics and finance/administration—through a definite chain of command. The ICS is set up in an Emergency Operations Center, where the leaders of each unit can be present at a single site in order to quickly facilitate communication and coordinate the response.

- Mass panic can be one of the greatest dangers to students. Staff members should remember that in times of stress, students will look for leadership to those who are normally in an authoritative position. Remain calm, size up the situation, and take action based on known facts.
- The teacher must keep the student roster or attendance sheet with him/her at all times in order to take roll in an emergency. The teacher will remain with students until directed otherwise.
- A well-prepared and tested plan for prompt and positive protective actions minimizes injuries and loss of life in a major disaster. This plan will be reviewed and updated annually.
- This plan outlines actions, which the school staff may be called upon to execute in an emergency.
- All school staff members must be thoroughly familiar with the contents of this plan.
- In the absence of orders from their superior, the school principal is authorized and directed to implement plans as described herein; or take such other action as may, in their judgment, be necessary to save lives and mitigate the effects of disasters.

A principal may implement one or more of these emergency actions in coping with a disaster. Maintenance personnel are assigned as liaisons between Incident Command and the school in the event phones are inoperative. Each school will notify parents yearly about the school's Safety Plan and will have a copy of the plan in the school office for parent review. During an emergency, children may only be released to the parent, guardian, designee of parent, or other adult legally responsible for their care. There shall be NO EXCEPTIONS to this policy. The dismissal of children from the school shall be governed by the emergency procedures outlined in this handbook. However, this policy does not preclude the exercise of professional judgment by an administrator when the circumstances of the situation indicate dismissal to be in the best interest of the child.

### **Public Agency Use of School Buildings for Emergency Shelters**

LCER has an agreement to allow the American Red Cross to use school buildings, grounds, and equipment for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare.

### **(C) School Suspension, Expulsion and Mandatory Expulsion Guidelines**

AAE has developed and maintains a current and comprehensive set of student expectations and discipline policies. Together, AAE students, parents, and staff exemplify the highest standards of behavior and work ethics to ensure continued excellence. The student expectations and policies are clearly delineated in the AAE Parent-Student Handbook. These expectations and policies address: dress code, attendance, respect for school authority, substance abuse, school violence, safety, work habits, and respectful interactions with others. Every student and his/her parent or guardian is required to sign and return an Acknowledgement Form at the beginning of each academic year establishing that they have read and understand the expectations and policies.



The Pupil Suspension and Expulsion Policy has been established in order to promote learning and protect the safety and well being of all students at AAE. In creating this policy, AAE has reviewed Education Code Section 48900 et seq. which describes the non-charter schools' list of offenses and procedures to establish its list of offenses and procedures for suspensions and expulsions. The language used closely mirrors the language of Education Code Section 48900 et seq. AAE is committed to annual review of policies and procedures surrounding suspensions and expulsions and, as necessary, modification of the lists of offenses for which students are subject to suspension or expulsion.

When the Policy is violated, it may be necessary to suspend or expel a student from regular classroom instruction. This policy shall serve as the AAE's policy and procedures for student suspension and expulsion and it may be amended from time to time without the need to amend the charter so long as the amendments comport with legal requirements. AAE staff shall enforce disciplinary rules and procedures fairly and consistently among all students. The Policy and its Procedures will be distributed as part of the Student Handbook and will clearly describe discipline expectations.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of or willfully causing the infliction of physical pain on a student. For purposes of the Policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to school property.

AAE administration shall ensure that students and their parents/guardians are notified in writing upon enrollment of all discipline and involuntary removal policies and procedures. The notice shall state that this Policy and Procedures are available upon request at the AAE Principal's office.

Suspended or expelled students shall be excluded from all school and school-related activities unless otherwise agreed during the period of suspension or expulsion.

A student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom AAE has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability pursuant to the Individuals with IDEA or who is qualified for services under Section 504 is subject to the same grounds for suspension and expulsion and is accorded the same due process procedures applicable to general education students except when federal and state law mandates additional or different procedures. AAE will follow all applicable federal and state laws including but not limited to the California Education Code, when imposing any form of discipline on a student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability or who is otherwise qualified for such services or protections in according due process to such students.

No student shall be involuntarily removed by AAE for any reason unless the parent or guardian of the student has been provided written notice of intent to remove the student no less than five school days before the effective date of the action. The written notice shall be in the native language of the student or the student's parent or guardian or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student's educational rights holder, and shall inform him or her of the basis for which the pupil is being involuntarily removed and his or her right to request a hearing to challenge the involuntary removal. If a parent, guardian, or educational rights holder requests a hearing, AAE shall utilize the same hearing procedures specified below for expulsions, before the effective date of the action to involuntarily remove the student. If the student's parent, guardian, or educational rights holder requests a hearing, the student shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until AAE issues a final decision. As used herein, "involuntarily removed" includes disenrolled, dismissed, transferred, or terminated, but does not include removals for misconduct which may be grounds for suspension or expulsion as enumerated below.

#### **(D) Procedures to Notify Teachers of Dangerous Pupils (EC 49079)**

In order to fulfill the requirements of Education Code 49079, teachers will be notified of the reason(s) a student has been suspended. AAE has incorporated this notification into the existing Student Information System. The information provided is for the student's current teacher(s) only. All information regarding suspension and expulsion is confidential.

**(E) Sexual Harassment Policies (EC 212.6 [b])**

LCER Board desires to provide LCER employees' with a working environment that is free of unlawful harassment. In order to achieve this, LCER Board prohibits sexual harassment and harassment based upon pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, race, religion, creed, color, gender, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. LCER will not condone or tolerate harassment or sexual harassment in the workplace of any type by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which the school does business with.

This policy applies to all employee actions and relationships, regardless of position or gender. LCER will promptly and thoroughly investigate any complaint of harassment and take appropriate corrective action, if warranted. LCER shall not tolerate retaliatory action or behavior against a LCER employee or other person who articulates a good faith concern about harassment against him or her or against another individual, or who files a complaint or who participates in an investigation. For the purposes of this policy, LCER employees shall include applicants for employment in LCER.

**Sexual Harassment:**

In accordance with existing policy, discrimination on the basis of gender in education institutions is prohibited. All persons, regardless of the gender, are afforded equal rights and opportunities and freedom from unlawful discrimination in educational programs or activities conducted by LCER. LCER is committed to provide a workplace free of unlawful sexual harassment and considers such harassment to be a major offense. Any LCER employee who permits, engages in or participates in sexual harassment of another LCER employee, student, or any other person that the school does business with, shall be in violation of this policy and is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

Each Principal and supervisor is responsible for maintaining an educational and work environment free of sexual harassment. All supervisors of staff will receive sexual harassment and harassment training within six (6) months of their assumption of a supervisory position and will receive further training once every two (2) years thereafter. All staff will receive sexual harassment and harassment training and/or instruction concerning unlawful harassment in the workplace as required by law. A supervisor, Principal or LCER administrator other than the CEO, who receives a harassment complaint, shall promptly notify the CEO or designee.

Each employee has the responsibility to maintain a workplace free from any form of unlawful harassment. Consequently, should any LCER employee, in particular those with supervisory responsibilities, become aware of any conduct that may constitute sexual harassment or other prohibited behavior, immediate action should be taken to address such conduct. Employees and students are expected to act in a positive and professional manner and to contribute to a productive school environment that is free from harassing or disruptive activity. Any employee who believes that he/she has been unlawfully harassed or who has knowledge of any instance of harassment by another employee or a student, shall immediately contact his/her supervisor, Principal, Human Resources, CEO or designee, or other LCER administrator, to obtain procedures for reporting a complaint. However, an employee may bypass his/her supervisor in registering a complaint where the supervisor is the alleged perpetrator of the harassment. Employees who witness harassment and do not report it may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. Employee complaints of unlawful harassment shall be filed in accordance with AR 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning LCER Personnel.

Prohibited unlawful harassment includes, but is not limited to, the following behavior:

- Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments or slurs;
- Physical conduct including assault, unwanted touching, intentionally blocking normal movement or interfering with work because of sex, race or any other protected basis;
- Retaliation for reporting or threatening to report harassment;
- Deferential or preferential treatment based on any of the protected classes above.

Prohibited sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, the following behavior:

- Unwelcome sexual advances;
- Requests for sexual favors or other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature made against another person of the same or opposite gender, in the work or educational setting.

Employees may also direct their complaints to the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (“DFEH”), which has authority to conduct investigation of the facts. The deadline for filing complaints with the DFEH is one year from the date of the alleged unlawful conduct. If the DFEH believes a complaint is valid and settlement efforts fail, the DFEH may seek an administrative hearing before the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission (“FEHC”) or file a lawsuit in court. Both the FEHC and the courts have authority to award monetary and non-monetary relief in meritorious cases. Employees can contact the nearest DFEH office or the FEHC by checking the State Government listings in the local telephone directory.

All employees shall cooperate with any investigation of an alleged act of unlawful harassment conducted by LCER or by an appropriate state or federal agency. Retaliatory behavior or threats of retaliation against any complainant or any participant in the complaint or investigative process is prohibited.

The CEO or designee shall take all actions necessary to ensure the prevention, investigation and correction of unlawful harassment, including but not limited to:

- Providing periodic training to all staff regarding LCER's unlawful harassment policy, particularly the procedures for registering complaints and employees' duty in availing themselves of the complaint procedure in order to avoid harm.
- Publicizing and disseminating LCER's unlawful harassment policy to staff.
- Ensuring prompt, thorough and fair investigation of complaints in a way that respects the privacy of all parties concerned, to the extent necessary.
- Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial actions after completion of investigation. This may require subsequent monitoring of developments.

#### **(F) School-wide Dress Code Relating to Gang-Related Apparel (EC 35183)**

In cooperation with teachers, students, and parents/guardians, the principal or designee shall establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, and administrative regulations. AAE's school dress code is distributed as part of the Student Handbook .It is regularly reviewed and updated.

AAE has chosen a uniform dress code for students to follow whenever on campus. The school uniform may not be altered in any way and must be worn properly. Gang-affiliated clothing is prohibited. The administration reserves the right to determine and update the dress code based on current trends.

#### **(G) Procedure for Safe Ingress and Egress of Pupils, Parents, and Staff to and from School (EC 35294.2)**

Procedures for safe ingress and egress of students, parents, staff, and visitors is provided through the handbook, orientations, assemblies, and social media. Parent/Guardians are informed of procedures for student drop-off and pick-up and given frequent reminders about traffic and campus safety. CDO's (Character development Officers) and Administration assist families in crossing at designated places within the school boundaries. AAE does not provide student transportation to and from school.

The AAE is a closed campus. Students are not permitted in unauthorized areas or to leave campus from the time they arrive on campus until the time they complete their last scheduled class. Students will not be permitted to return to campus after their last scheduled class unless it is for a school function or with prior approval from the school administration. Leaving the campus without prior approval from the school official for any reason is a violation of this closed campus policy and is subject to disciplinary consequences.

Procedures for campus visitors and volunteers, are outlined in the Parent-Student Handbook. Campus visitors are required to check-in with school personnel in the main office. Office staff will verify pre-approval of campus visitor and their appropriate identification. Upon verification, visitor will be issued a visitor badge and be required to sign-in and out during the visit. School volunteers are required to fill out a volunteer application. Upon clearance from Human Resources, volunteers receive an ID badge to be worn during their entire time on campus. Volunteers are required to check-in with school personnel and sign-in and out upon each visit.

#### **(H) A Safe and Orderly School Environment Conducive to Learning (EC 35294.2)**

**Component:**

School and Classroom Safety

**Element:**

Creating and Maintaining a clean and safe school environment

**Opportunity for Improvement:**

Lunch areas, restrooms and classrooms will be well-maintained and litter free as evidenced by facilities evaluations, Character Development Officers, and administrator evaluations.

Objectives	Action Steps	Resources	Lead Person	Evaluation
Improvement of school grounds	utilize facilities/custodial crew, CDO's, volunteer students	utilize gloves, trash bags and other cleaning supplies	Ryan Chamberlain	daily visual assessment by all parties involved
Recycling program	AFJROTC students, CDO's and other staff members collect recyclables	recycling bins	Lead CDO & AFJROTC Advisor	receipts from recycling center

**Component:**

A safe social emotional learning environment will be maintained at AAE.

**Element:**

School Climate

**Opportunity for Improvement:**

To empower students to show respect, make good decisions, and solve problems.

Objectives	Action Steps	Resources	Lead Person	Evaluation
Empower students to report dangerous and bullying behaviors	Continue SEL classroom curriculum, morning announcements, schedule assemblies for student awareness, use an anonymous reporting website (WeTip)	WeTip, SEL Curriculum	Counseling, Administration	school climate surveys, SEL surveys, office referrals, suspension/expulsion data, attendance rates

**Component:****Element:****Opportunity for Improvement:**

Objectives	Action Steps	Resources	Lead Person	Evaluation

## **(I) School Discipline Rules and Consequences (EC 35291 and EC 35291.5)**

### **Academy for Academic Excellence Student Conduct Code**

#### **Conduct Code Procedures**

The rules of the school pertaining to student discipline are distributed through the Parent-Student Handbook and are available in the Principal's Office at 17500 Mana Rd., Apple Valley, California.

#### **(J) Hate Crime Reporting Procedures and Policies**

In order to create a safe learning environment for all students, AAE desires to protect the right of every student to be free from hate-motivated behavior. The school prohibits discriminatory behavior or statements that degrade an individual on the basis of his/her actual or perceived race, ethnicity, culture, heritage, gender, sex, sexual orientation, physical/mental attributes, or religious beliefs or practices. Age-appropriate instruction will be provided to students to help promote an understanding of and respect for human rights, diversity, and tolerance in a multicultural society and to provide strategies to manage conflicts constructively.

Any student who believes he/she is a victim of hate-motivated behavior shall immediately contact the Principal or Principal's Designee. Upon receiving such a complaint, the Principal/Designee shall in a timely manner investigate the complaint in accordance with school-level complaint process/grievance procedures. A student who has been found to have demonstrated hate-motivated behavior shall be subject to discipline in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. Staff who receive notice of hate-motivated behavior or personally observe such behavior shall notify the Principal/Designee, CEO or designee, and/or law enforcement as appropriate. As needed, the school shall provide counseling, guidance, and support to students who are victims of hate-motivated behavior and to students who exhibit such behavior.

#### **Procedures for Preventing Acts of Bullying and Cyber-bullying**

Academy for Academic Excellence recognizes the harmful effects of bullying on student learning and school attendance and desires to provide a safe school environment that protects students from physical and emotional harm.

Bullying is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act. Bullying includes one or more acts committed by a student or group of students that may constitute harassment, sexual harassment, hate violence, or creates an intimidating, threatening and/or hostile educational environment, directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- Placing a reasonable student or students in fear of harm to that student's or those students' person or property
- Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health
- Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantial interference with his or her academic performance
- Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by AAE

Cyberbullying includes the electronic creation or transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the Internet, social media, or other technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device, as defined in Education Code 48900. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

Strategies for addressing bullying are developed with involvement of key stakeholders, including students, parents/guardians, and staff.

Prevention:

AAE will focus on the prevention of bullying by establishing clear rules for student conduct and implementing strategies to promote a positive, collaborative school climate. Students will be informed of school rules related to bullying, mechanisms available for reporting incidents or threats, and the consequences for engaging in bullying.

As appropriate, AAE will provide students with instruction, in the classroom or other educational settings, that promotes social-emotional learning, effective communication and conflict resolution skills, character/values education, respect for cultural and individual differences, self-esteem development, assertiveness skills, and appropriate online behavior.

#### Intervention:

Students are encouraged to notify school staff when they are being bullied or suspect that another student is being victimized. Threats or incidents may be reported confidentially and anonymously through WeTip. Reporting and Filing of Complaints Any student, parent/guardian, or other individual who believes that a student has been subjected to bullying or who has witnessed bullying may report the incident to a teacher, the principal, a compliance officer, or any other available school employee.

#### Investigation and Resolution of Complaints:

Any complaint of bullying against a student who is of a protected characteristic, actual or perceived, as defined in the LCER's Uniform Complaint Procedures, shall be investigated and, if determined to be discriminatory, resolved in accordance with law and the LCER's Uniform Complaint Procedures. If, during the investigation, it is determined that a complaint is about nondiscriminatory bullying, the principal or designee shall inform the complainant and shall take all necessary actions to resolve the complaint.

#### Discipline :

Corrective actions for a student who commits an act of bullying of any type may include counseling, behavioral intervention and education, and, if the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900, may include suspension or expulsion in accordance with AAE policies and regulations.

## **Safety Plan Review, Evaluation and Amendment Procedures**

The plan is revised annually to include up-to-date demographic data, current status and goals. The plan is reviewed by the AAE's School Safety Committee, School Site Council, local law enforcement, local fire department, principal and CEO for site approval. The plan is submitted to the Lewis Center Board of Education for district level approval and publication.

**Safety Plan Appendices**



## Emergency Contact Numbers

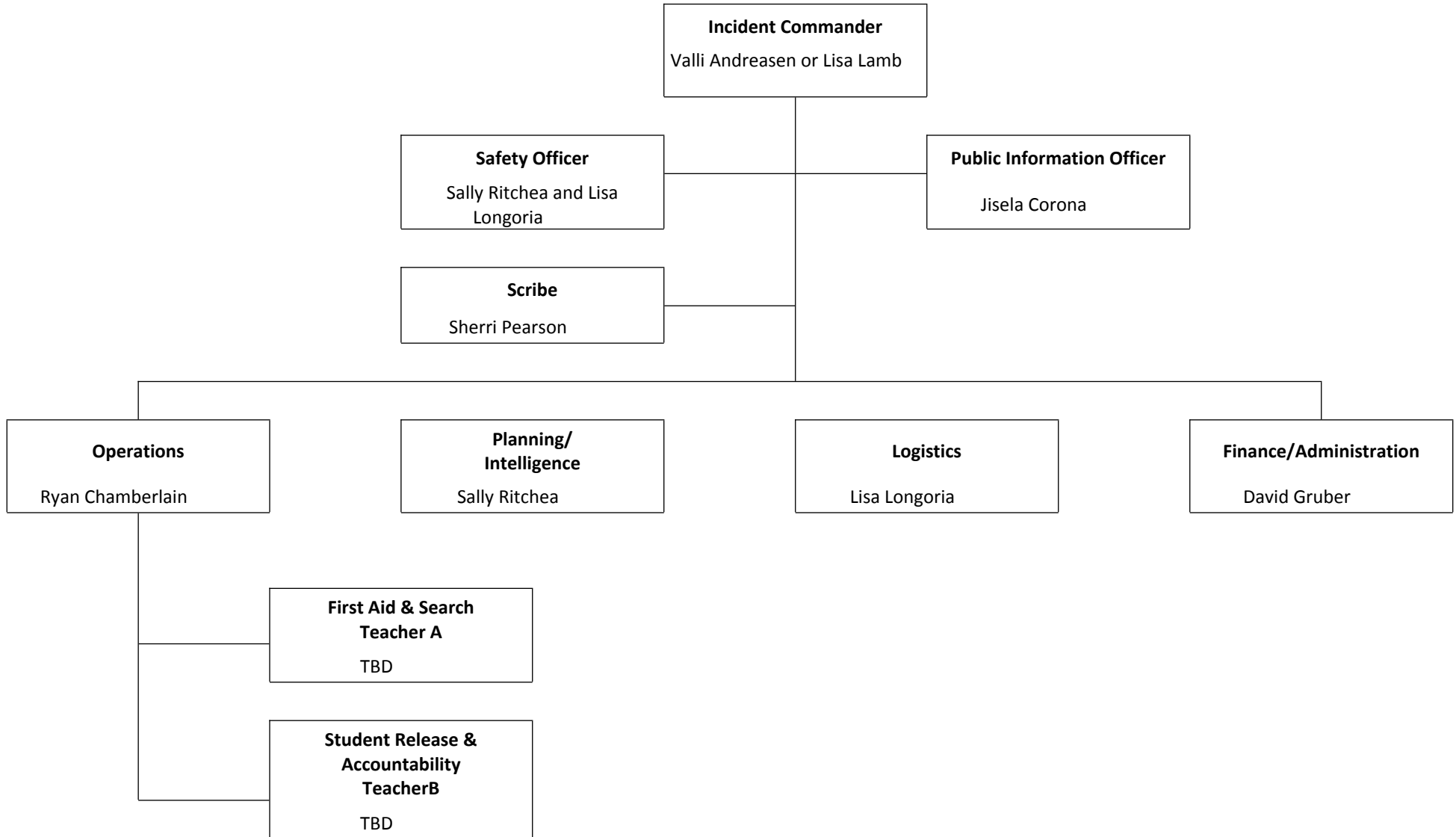
### Utilities, Responders and Communication Resources

Type	Vendor	Number	Comments
Emergency Services	American Medical Response	760-952-7400	
Law Enforcement/Fire/Paramedic	Apple Valley Police Department	760-240-7400	
Law Enforcement/Fire/Paramedic	Apple Valley Fire Department	760-247-7618	
Local Hospitals	St. Mary Regional Medical Center	760-242-2311	
Public Utilities	Southern California Edison	800-655-4555	
Public Utilities	Southwest Gas	877-860-6020	
American National Red Cross	American Red Cross	760-245-6511	
School District	Apple Valley Unified	760-247-8001	
Law Enforcement/Fire/Paramedic	Sheriff's Department Dispatch	760-956-5001	
Law Enforcement/Fire/Paramedic	Active Shooter Emergency Number	760-933-9398	

**Safety Plan Review, Evaluation and Amendment Procedures**

<b>Activity Description</b> (i.e. review steps, meetings conducted, approvals, etc)	<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Attached Document</b> (description and location)
safety committee meeting of the school	November 6, 2020 10:00 am	
safety committee meeting review of the CSSP	February 2, 2021 8:30 am	
review of AAE and NSLA CSSP	February 26, 2021 8:15 am	
present CSSP in a public meeting for comment	March 8, 2021 6:30 pm	
Board approval of CSSP	March 8, 2021 4:00 pm	

**Academy for Academic Excellence Incident Command System**



## **Incident Command Team Responsibilities**

### **Standardized Emergency Response Management System Overview**

The California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) is designed to centralize and coordinate emergency response through the use of standardized terminology and processes. This greatly facilitates the flow of information and resources among the agencies participating in response to an emergency. SEMS consists of five functions:

#### **INCIDENT COMMAND TEAM**

The Incident Command Team is responsible for directing school emergency response activities. The Incident Command Team is led by the Principal (Incident Commander) and also includes the school's Public Information officer, the Safety Coordinator and the Agency Liaison. The Incident Commander also directs the activities of all other teams. Other than Student Assembly Team Members, all other personnel will report in with the Incident Command before reporting to their assigned post. Once the Student Assembly Team submits their reports to the Incident Command, there should be an account of all personnel. The actual location of the Incident Command needs to be flexible, depending upon the situation. Ex #1: If it is reported that an intruder is on campus, then the IC location will be wherever the Principal is located on campus. No one is to leave their location until officially told to do so. Ex #2: In the case of an earthquake, the initial location has been determined to be on the grass.

#### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### **Incident Commander**

The Incident Commander (Principal) is responsible for directing emergency operations and shall remain at the Command Post to observe and direct all operations. Specific duties of the Incident Commander may include:

- Periodically assess the situation
- Directing the Incident Command Team and all other emergency teams
- Determining the need for, and requesting, outside assistance
- Periodically communicating with the LCER CEO

##### **Public Information Officer**

The Public Information Officer (PIO) is the official spokesperson for the LCER in an emergency and is responsible for communicating with the media and delivering public announcements. Specific duties of the Public Information Officer may include:

- Periodically receiving updates and official statements from the Incident Commander
- Maintaining a log of PIO actions and all communications
- Periodically interacting with the media
- Preparing statements for dissemination to the public
- Monitoring news broadcasts about the incident and correcting any misinformation.

##### **Safety Officer**

The Safety Officer is responsible for ensuring that all emergency activities are conducted in as safe a manner as possible under the circumstances that exist. Specific duties of the Safety Officer may include:

- Periodically checking with the Incident Commander for situation briefings and updates
- Maintaining all records and documentation assigned by the Incident Commander
- Monitoring drills, exercises and emergency response activities for safety
- Identifying safety hazards
- Ensuring that responders use appropriate safety equipment

##### **Agency Liaison**

The Agency Liaison is responsible for coordinating the efforts of outside agencies such as police and fire by ensuring the proper flow of information between Incident Command and the agencies. Specific duties of the Agency Liaison may include:

- Periodically checking with the Incident commander for situation briefings and updates.
- Maintaining all records and documentation as assigned by the Incident Commander
- Briefing agency representatives on current situation, priorities and planned actions

Ensuring coordination of efforts by periodically keeping Incident Commander informed of agencies' action plans and providing periodic updates to agency representatives as necessary.

### **Management**

During an emergency, the Incident Commander directs response actions from a designated Command Post. To effectively do this, the Incident Commander must constantly assess the situation, and develop and implement appropriate strategies. The Incident Commander must be familiar with the available resources, accurately document all response actions, and effectively communicate response strategies to others participating in the response. This function is typically filled by the school principal. The principal is assisted in carrying out this function by a Public Information & Liaison Officer and Safety Officer.

### **Planning & Intelligence**

Planning and Intelligence involves the use of various methods to efficiently gather information, weigh and document the information for significance, and actively assess the status of the emergency. This understanding and knowledge about the situation at hand is vital to the effective management of a response. These activities are performed by a single person who reports directly to the Incident Commander.

### **Operations**

All response actions are implemented under by Operations. This includes staff performing first aid, crisis intervention, search and rescue, site security, damage assessment, evacuations, and the release of students.

### **Logistics**

Logistics supports the response by coordinating personnel; assembling and deploying volunteers; providing supplies, equipment, and services; and facilitating communications among emergency responders.

### **Finance & Administration**

Finance & Administration involves the purchasing of all necessary materials, tracking financial records, timekeeping for emergency responders, and recovering school records following an emergency. These activities are performed by a single person who reports directly to the Incident Commander.

## **Emergency Response Guidelines**

### **Step One: Identify the Type of Emergency**

Determining the type of emergency will assist the Incident Commander/administrator in making the appropriate decisions to keep the campus safe. The response to a fire is drastically different than responding to an active shooter. The type of emergency may lead to evacuation, shelter-in-place, or lockdown as well as which agency to contact.

### **Step Two: Identify the Level of Emergency**

Determining the size and immediacy of the emergency will determine the level. The site leader will determine if it is a classroom only, building only, area only (i.e. playground), whole school, neighborhood, or city-wide emergency.

### **Step Three: Determine the Immediate Response Action**

With safety of students, staff and visitors at the forefront, site administrators/Incident Commander will determine the immediate response based on site protocols. Please reference sections about: fire, earthquake, active shooter, bomb threat, loss of utilities, etc.

### **Step Four: Communicate the Appropriate Response Action**

Administrators/Incident Commander will communicate to the necessary emergency responders via phone, preferably a land line phone.

Administrators/Commander will utilize a variety of communication tools to notify staff and emergency participants such as:

- Bell system
- Phone intercom system
- School email
- Radios

In addition, the Administrator/Incident Commander will communicate with Lewis Center and outside stakeholder personnel via:

- Phone
- Email
- Text messaging

Families will be notified of incident, pick-up procedures, or next steps through multiple methods to include:

- Student Information System Notification
- School messenger call out
- Postings on school website and social media accounts

## **Types of Emergencies & Specific Procedures**

### **Aircraft Crash**

Emergency response will depend on the size of the aircraft, nature of the crash, and proximity to the school. If it is safe to remain inside the building, all students should be kept in the school under supervision. The crash may also result in an explosion, chemical spill or utility interruption.

#### **AIRCRAFT CRASHES INTO SCHOOL**

##### **STAFF ACTIONS:**

- Notify Principal.
- Move students away from immediate vicinity of the crash.
- EVACUATE students from the building using primary and/or alternate fire routes to a safe assembly area away from the crash scene. Take class roster/nametags and emergency backpack.
- Check school site to assure that all students have evacuated.
- Take attendance at the assembly area.
- Report missing students to the Principal /designee and emergency response personnel.
- Maintain control of the students a safe distance from the crash site.
- Care for the injured, if any.
- Escort students back to the to the school site when emergency response officials have determined it is safe to return to the building.

##### **PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Notify police and fire department (call 911).
- Determine immediate response procedures, which may include EVACUATION, or OFF-SITE EVACUATION that may include the use of busses or alternate transportation.
- Notify LCER CEO, who will contact the Office of Emergency Services.
- Arrange for first aid treatment and removal of injured occupants from building.
- Secure area to prevent unauthorized access until the Fire Department arrives. Ensure that students and staff remain at a safe distance from the crash.
- Account for all building occupants and determine extent of injuries.
- Do not re-enter building until the authorities provide clearance to do so.

#### **AIRCRAFT CRASHES NEAR SCHOOL**

##### **STAFF ACTIONS:**

- Notify Principal.
- Move students away from immediate vicinity of the crash.
- Remain inside with students unless subsequent explosions or fire endanger the building.

##### **PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Notify police and fire department (call 911).
- Initiate SHELTER IN PLACE, if warranted.
- Initiate Take Cover for students and staff outside or direct them to designated area until further instructions are received.
- Ensure that students and staff remain at a safe distance from the crash.
- Notify LCER CEO, who will contact the Office of Emergency Services.
- Fire department officials will secure area to prevent unauthorized access. Do not enter affected areas until the appropriate authorities provide clearance to do so.

## **Animal Disturbance**

If there is a rabid or uncontrollable animal on campus, implement this procedure when any wild animal threatens the safety of the students and staff.

### **PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Isolate the students from the animal. Close doors and lock tables as a means to isolating the animal.
- If the animal is outside, keep students inside and institute secure campus procedures.
- If the animal is inside, initiate an EVACUATION outside to a protected area away from the animal.
- Contact the San Bernardino County Animal Control for assistance in removing the animal.
- If the animal injures anyone, seek medical assistance from the school nurse.
- Notify parent/guardian and recommended health advisor.

### **STAFF/TEACHER ACTIONS:**

- If the animal is outside, keep students inside. Lock doors and keep students away from the windows.
- If the animal is inside, EVACUATE students to a sheltered area away from the animal.
- Notify the principal if there are any injuries.

## **Armed Assault on Campus**

“Active shooter situations” are defined as those where an individual or individuals is “actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area.” Active shooters/armed assailants frequently use firearms but attacks of this type can also be made with other types of weapons (knives, swords, etc.). These situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Because of this, individuals must be prepared to deal with an active shooter/armed assailant situation before law enforcement personnel arrive on the scene.

No single response fits all active shooter/armed assailant situations; therefore it is essential all members of the school staff know their options for response and are prepared to act decisively to protect their students and themselves.

### **ACTIONS – ALL SCHOOL STAFF**

1. All employees are authorized to take immediate action to protect themselves and students if they see or hear anything that causes them to believe an active shooter / armed assailant situation is occurring or is to about to occur.

a. Act immediately if you or your students:

- hear a sound that might be gunfire.
- see something that looks like a weapon being carried or used on or near the campus.
- sense any other indication of active shooter / armed assailant threat.

b. Quickly evaluate which option (Run, Hide or Fight) will best protect you and your students.

c. Be decisive. Communicate your plan to your students and act quickly.

d. Call 911 and the School Office as soon as it is safe to do so.

2. Options: Run, Hide or Fight

a. Run: If you can get yourself and your students safely away from danger, do so immediately.

- Do not evacuate unless you...

know with certainty, the exact location of assailant (do not trust unofficial, second hand accounts),

and can visualize a route that will get your students and yourself safely off campus.



- Don't carry anything with you.

Police may mistake an item in your hands as a weapon.

Leave everything behind.

- If you encounter people along the way...

Adults: Warn them and take them with if you can but don't stop if they refuse to come.

Students: Warn any students you encounter and take them with if you. You may use reasonable force to take a student with you if you can do so without endangering yourself or the other students in your

care.

- Place terrain and buildings between you and the assailant to cover your escape.
- Keep going until you are certain you are out of danger.
- Call 911 as soon as it is safe to do so.
- Keep your students with you. Call (insert phone #) to report your location and obtain instructions.

b. Hide: If you do not know the exact location of the assailant, get your students and yourself into the most secure location available and LOCKDOWN.

- Lock the doors
- Close and lock windows and close blinds or cover windows;
- Turn off lights;
- Barricade the doors with heavy furniture; be sure your barricade covers any glass in or near the door;
- Silence all electronic devices;
- Remain silent;
- Position occupants spread out and out of line of site from room entrance.
- Prepare to take action if the assailant attempts to get in the room;
- Use text or email to communicate your location, the number of students or staff with you, and if you have any wounded and the extent of the injuries;
- Call 911 as soon as it is safe to do so.
- Remain in place until evacuated by identifiable law enforcement officers.

c. FIGHT: Never seek out confrontation with an active shooter / armed assailant. If you are confronted by an active shooter / armed assailant and you have no safer option, take immediate action to disrupt or incapacitate the assailant. If you choose the

FIGHT option, commit to your actions.

- If you are in LOCKDOWN (Hide), prepare yourself and your students for the possibility that the assailant may attempt to get in the room you are in.

Construct a strong barricade.

If you have another way out (a window or back door) use it while the assailant is attempting to get in.

If no other exit is available be prepared to disrupt the assailant by throwing objects at the assailant and running for the exit as soon as the assailant enters the room.

Use items in the environment as improvised weapons (fire extinguishers, staplers, books, cups, etc.)

- Staff members may consider using aggressive and violent force to surprise and overwhelm the assailant.

3. Call 911 and initiate a school-wide LOCKDOWN announcement using intercom AND radios as soon as you can do so safely. Work with the people you are with to do both calls simultaneously if possible.

a. Provide as much information as possible (slow down – be calm):

State the emergency: “I hear gunfire.” “I saw...”

Give information on people who are wounded.

Location of the assailant (if known):

Description of the assailant (if known):

Your precise location: “room \_\_”

The number of children with you.

b. Keep the line open, even if you can’t talk, unless instructed by the dispatcher to end the call.

#### 4. Special Topics

a. Injuries: Your response to injured persons will need to vary given the specific circumstances that are present and the response option (Run, Hide or Fight) you are engaged in.

- Run – If you encounter injured persons while you are trying to get out of danger...

And you have children with you, you must place their safety ahead of the injured person. Take note of where the injured person is and report the location as soon as you get to safety.

- Hide – If someone is injured where you are hiding, secure the room before tending to the wounded.
- As soon as it is safe to do so, apply first aid using any supplies that are available. If necessary, use articles of clothing as improvised dressing for wounds and apply direct pressure to control bleeding.
- Fight – This is always the option of last resort because the probability of injury is highest when you are in close proximity to the assailant. Commit to your plan. Do not stop to tend to the wounded until it is safe to do so.

If you’re intention is to disrupt the assailant to allow as many people to escape as possible, stick to that plan.

If your plan is to incapacitate the assailant, keep fighting until the assailant is incapacitated and the weapon and assailant are under control.

b. Law Enforcement: If you encounter law enforcement officers...

- Immediately raise your hands in the air and display your open palms.
- Don’t run up to officers or attempt to hug or talk to them.
- Don’t talk unless they ask you a question.
- Do exactly what they tell you to do.

c. Weapons: If the assailant loses control of a weapon, exercise extreme care when securing it:

- Do not pick up the weapon. Law enforcement may shoot you if they see you holding a weapon.
- Secure the weapon by placing an empty trash can over it and sliding it to a location where it can be kept covered and under control until a law enforcement officer can take possession of it.

d. Ongoing Communication: (School and LCER staff should develop means to safely provide updates to staff to keep them informed during the incident.)

e. Extended Day Programs / After School Activities: (School sites must also plan for and train all LCER/site staff involved with student activities and extracurricular programs.)

**PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Follow the All Staff guidance described above.
- Call 911 and initiate a LOCKDOWN announcement as soon as you can do so safely. Work with nearby staff to do them simultaneously if at all possible.
- Include as much actionable information on the announcement as possible.
- Example “LOCKDOWN, LOCKDOWN, LOCKDOWN. Man with a gun on campus. LOCKDOWN now.”
- If you have surveillance capabilities, and can safely provide real time announcements, broadcast continuous and accurate information on the location of the assailant. This will disrupt and distract the assailant. It will also provide people on campus with

information they can use to better evaluate their options.

- Example: “The gunman is now in the D wing headed south. He is armed with a shotgun and is wearing a hooded jacket and blue jeans.”
- If possible assist emergency personnel.
- Assist police in entering the school;
- Provide officers with keys, maps and any other information requested.
- Initiate Incident Command Center
- Prepare an off-site evacuation site for reunification.
- Once the assailant is neutralized, emergency responders will begin to treat and evacuate the wounded.
- School staff and students will remain in lockdown until evacuated on a room by room basis by law enforcement officials.
- Psychological Support team will be assembled to assist with stabilizing acutely impacted students, staff and parents during reunification.
- This team will also provide ongoing support throughout the recovery phase of the emergency response.

**Biological or Chemical Release**

This is an incident involving the discharge of a biological substance in a solid, liquid or gaseous state. Such incidents may include the release of radioactive materials. A biological agent can be introduced through:

- postal mail, via a contaminated letter or package
- a building’s ventilation system
- a small explosive device to help it become airborne
- a contaminated item such as a backpack, book bag, or other parcel left unattended
- the food supply
- aerosol release (for example, with a crop duster or spray equipment)

Defense against biological release (e.g. anthrax, smallpox, plague, ricin etc.) is difficult because usually appear after some time has lapsed. Indicators that may suggest the release of a biological or chemical substance include multiple victims suffering from: watery eyes, choking or breathing difficulty, twitching or the loss of coordination. Another indicator is the presence of distressed animals or dead birds. Determine which scenario applies and implement the appropriate response procedures.

Outside the building

**STAFF ACTIONS:**

- Notify Principal.
- Move students away from immediate vicinity of danger (if outside, implement Take Cover).
- Segregate individuals who have been topically contaminated by a liquid from unaffected individuals. Send affected individuals to a designated area for medical attention.
- Follow standard student assembly, accounting and reporting procedures.

**PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Initiate SHELTER IN PLACE.
- Shut off HVAC units.
- Move to central location where windows and doors can be sealed with duct tape.
- Call 911. Provide location and nature of the emergency and school actions taken.
- Notify LCER CEO of the situation.
- Turn on a battery-powered commercial radio and listen for instructions.
- Remain inside the building until the Department of Health or Fire Department determines it is safe to leave.
- Arrange for psychological counseling for students and staff.

#### Inside the building

#### STAFF ACTIONS:

- Notify principal or site administrator.
- Segregate individuals who have been topically contaminated by a liquid from unaffected individuals.
- Implement EVACUATION or OFF-SITE EVACUATION, as appropriate. Send affected individuals to a designated area for medical attention.
- Follow standard student assembly, accounting and reporting procedures.
- Prepare a list of those who are in the affected area to provide to emergency response personnel.

#### PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:

- Initiate EVACUATION of building or OFF-SITE EVACUATION to move students away from immediate vicinity of danger.
- Move up-wind from the potential danger.
- Call 911. Provide exact location and nature of emergency.
- Designate security team to isolate and restrict access to potentially contaminated areas.
- Wait for instructions from emergency responders-- Health or Fire Department.
- Notify LCER CEO of the situation.
- Arrange for psychological counseling for students and staff.
- Wait to return to the building until it has been declared safe by local HazMat or appropriate agency.

#### THOSE WHO HAVE DIRECT CONTACT WITH BIOLOGICAL AGENT:

- Wash affected areas with soap and water.
- Immediately remove and contain contaminated clothing
- Do not use bleach on potentially exposed skins.
- Remain in safe, but separate area, isolated from those who are unaffected, until emergency response personnel arrive.

#### **Bomb Threat/ Threat Of violence**

In the event that the school receives a bomb threat by telephone, follow the Bomb Threat Checklist on the next page to document information about the threat. Keep the caller on the telephone as long as possible and listen carefully to all information the caller provides. Make a note of any voice characteristics, accents, or background noises and complete the Bomb Threat Checklist as soon as possible.

#### PERSON RECEIVING THREAT BY TELEPHONE:

- Listen. Do not interrupt caller.
- Keep the caller on the line with statements such as "I am sorry, I did not understand you. What did you say?"
- Alert someone else by prearranged signal to notify the telephone company to trace the call while the caller is on the line.
- Notify site administrator immediately after completing the call.
- Complete the Bomb Threat Checklist.

#### PERSON RECEIVING THREAT BY MAIL:

- Note the manner in which the threat was delivered, where it was found and who found it.
- Limit handling of item by immediately placing it in an envelope so that fingerprints may be detected. Written threats should be turned over to law enforcement.
- Caution students against picking up or touching any strange objects or packages.

- Notify principal or site administrator.

**PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Call 911.
- If the caller is still on the phone, contact the phone company to trace the call. Tell the telephone operator the name of school, name of caller, phone number on which the bomb threat came in. This must be

done quickly since the call cannot be traced once the caller has hung up.

- Instruct staff and students to turn off cellular phones or two-way radios. Do not use those devices during this threat since explosive devices can be triggered by radio frequencies.
- Determine whether to evacuate the threatened building and adjoining buildings. If the suspected bomb is in a corridor, modify evacuation routes to bypass the corridor.
- Use the intercom, personal notification by designated persons, or the PA system to evacuate the threatened rooms.
- Notify the LCER CEO of the situation.
- Do not return to the school building until it has been inspected and determined safe by proper authorities.
- Avoid publicizing the threat any more than necessary.

**STAFF ACTIONS:**

- Evacuate students as quickly as possible, using primary or alternate routes.
- Upon arrival at the designated safe site, take attendance. Notify the principal/site administrator of any missing students.
- Do not return to the building until emergency response officials determine it is safe.

**Bus Disaster**

The teacher in charge of a special activity trip utilizing bus transportation will carry a copy of field trip permission forms with student emergency contact information.

**STAFF ACTIONS AT THE SCENE:**

- Call 911, if warranted.
- Notify Principal.
- Implement basic first aid until emergency medical services and/or law enforcement arrives and takes charge of the emergency.
- Move all uninjured students to a safe distance from the accident.
- Document the names of all injured students and their first aid needs.

**PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Notify law enforcement.
- Notify parents/guardians of all students on the bus as soon as accurate information is available.
- Designate a school staff representative to proceed to any medical treatment facility to which an injured student has been taken to assist parents and provide support to students, as appropriate.
- Notify school community about the incident and status of injured students and/or staff. Prepare news release for media, if appropriate.

**Disorderly Conduct**

Disorderly Conduct/Civil Disturbance is an unauthorized assemblage on the school grounds with the potential to:

- disrupt school activities;
- cause injury to staff and students; and/or
- damage property.

Precautionary measures must be taken to keep school personnel and students from undue exposure to danger. Efforts should be made to remain calm, to avoid provoking aggression, and to keep students in their classrooms.

**Inside School**

#### STAFF ACTIONS:

- Report disruptive circumstances to Principal/site administrator.
- Avoid arguing with participant(s).
- Have all students and employees leave the immediate area of disturbance.
- Lock doors. Account for all students and remain in classroom unless instructed otherwise by the Principal or law enforcement.
- Stay away from windows and exterior doors.

#### PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:

- If the students are engaging in civil disobedience, keep the students confined to one room in the school building.
- Set up a communication exchange with the students, staff and principal. Try to restore order.
- If unable to calm students and violent or uncontrolled behavior is possible, notify police of situation and request assistance.
- Send home with students for their parents/guardians a brief written description of the emergency, how it was handled and, if appropriate, what steps are being taken in its aftermath.

#### Outside of School

#### PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:

- Call 911.
- Move any students who are outside into the school building. If unable to do so, have students lie down and cover their heads.
- Once students are in the school building, lock and secure all exterior doors, including restrooms. Have custodians remove trash containers and other burnable items from public access.
- Cancel all outside activities.
- Maintain an accurate record of events, conversations and actions.
- Assign staff members to assist nurse as necessary.

#### STAFF ACTIONS:

- Close and lock classroom doors. Close all curtains and blinds. Keep students away from windows and take precautions to protect them from flying glass in the event windows are broken.
- Remain with students within locked classrooms until all clear is given, regardless of bells and the school schedule.

### **Earthquake**

The major threat of injury during an earthquake is from falling objects, glass shards and debris. Many injuries are sustained while entering or leaving buildings. Therefore, it is important to quickly move away from windows, free-standing partitions and shelves and take the best available cover under a sturdy desk or table, in a doorway, or against an inside wall. All other actions must wait until the shaking stops.

#### INSIDE BUILDING

#### STAFF ACTIONS:

- At first recognition of seismic activity, instruct students to move away from windows.
- Initiate DROP, DUCK, COVER, and HOLD ON procedures. Immediately drop to the floor under desks, chairs, or tables. With back to windows, place head between knees, hold on to a table leg with one hand

and cover the back of the neck with the other arm.

- Move as little as possible. However, if a person is unable to find protection under sturdy furniture, direct them against an interior wall. Face away from the windows.
- After shaking stops and it is safe to do so, check for injuries, and render first aid.
- Do NOT move injured students, unless to do so would place students in further danger. Use buddy system to remain with injured students.

- If shaking is significant and has caused obvious damage to the building, EVACUATE immediately.
- Follow procedures for EVACUATION or SHELTER IN PLACE as directed by Incident Commander.
- Avoid evacuation routes with heavy architectural ornaments over the entrances.
- Do not return to the building.
- DO NOT strike matches or touch any wires. Gas and electricity lines may be damaged.
- Stay alert for aftershocks.
- DO NOT re-enter building until it is determined safe to do so.

## OUTSIDE BUILDINGS

### STAFF ACTIONS:

- Find a clear spot and drop to the ground. Stay away from buildings, power lines, trees, and streetlights, etc.
- DROP AND COVER in the DROP, DUCK, COVER AND HOLD ON procedures.
- Place head between the knees; cover the back of the neck with arms and hands.
- Any person in a wheelchair should find a clear spot, lock the wheels, and if possible, place head between the knees. Cover the back of the neck with arms.
- Remain in place until shaking stops or for at least 20 seconds.
- Each time an aftershock is felt, DROP AND COVER
- After shaking stops, check for injuries, and render first aid.
- Report injury and damage status to Incident Commander according to site communications protocol.
- Continue to follow directives of Incident Commander.

### Explosion or Risk Of Explosion

Emergency response will depend on the type of explosion (smoke bomb, chemical lab incident, etc.) and proximity to the school. All students should be kept away from the explosion and under supervision.

### PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR:

- Determine whether site evacuation should be implemented. Use intercom to initiate EVACUATION. EVACUATION may be warranted in some buildings but others may be used for SHELTER IN PLACE.
- Notify Fire Department (call 911). Provide school name, address, exact location within the building, your name and phone number and nature of the emergency.
- Secure area to prevent unauthorized access until the Fire Department arrives.
- Advise the LCER CEO of school status.
- Notify emergency response personnel of any missing students.
- Notify utility company of breaks or suspected breaks in utility lines or pipes. Provide school name, address, location within building, your name and phone.
- Direct a systematic, rapid and thorough approach to search the building and surrounding areas. Check classrooms and work areas, public areas (foyers, offices, bathrooms and stairwells), unlocked closets, exterior areas (shrubbery, trash cans, debris boxes) and power sources (computer rooms, gas valves, electric panels, telephone panels).
- Determine if Student Release should be implemented. If so, notify staff, students and parents.
- If damage requires the school to be closed, notify parents and staff of school status and alternate site for classroom instruction. Do not return to the school building until it has been inspected and determined safe by proper authorities.

### STAFF ACTIONS:

- Initiate DROP, COVER AND HOLD ON.
- If explosion occurred inside the school building, EVACUATE to outdoor assembly area. Keep students and staff at a safe distance from the building(s) and away from fire-fighting equipment.
- Check to be sure all students have left the school site. Remain with students throughout evacuation process.
- Upon arrival at assembly area, check attendance. Report status to site administrator immediately.
- Render first aid as necessary.
- Do not return to the building until the emergency response personnel determine it is safe to do so.

- If explosion occurred in the surrounding area, initiate SHELTER IN PLACE. Keep students at a safe distance from site of the explosion.

### **Fire in Surrounding Area**

A fire in an adjoining area, such as a wild land fire, can threaten the school building and endanger the students and staff. Response actions are determined by location and size of the fire, its proximity to the school and the likelihood that it may endanger the school community.

#### **PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Determine if EVACUATION of school site is necessary.
- Contact local fire department (call 911) to determine the correct action for your school site.
- If necessary, begin evacuation of school site to previously identified safe site using school evacuation plan. If needed, contact parents for OFF-SITE EVACUATION.
- Direct inspection of premises to assure that all students and personnel have left the building.
- Notify the LCER CEO where the school has relocated and post a notice on the office door stating the temporary new location.
- Monitor radio station for information.
- Do not return to the building until it has been inspected and determined safe by proper authorities.

#### **STAFF ACTIONS:**

- If students are to be evacuated, take attendance to be sure all students are present before leaving the building site.
- Stay calm. Maintain control of the students a safe distance from the fire and firefighting equipment.
- Take attendance at the assembly area. Report any missing students to the principal/site administrator and emergency response personnel.
- Remain with students until the building has been inspected and it has been determined safe to return to.

### **Fire on School Grounds**

Should any fire endanger the students or staff, it is important to act quickly and decisively to prevent injuries and contain the spread of the fire. All doors leading to the fire should be closed. Do not re-enter the area for belongings. If the area is full of smoke, students and employees should be instructed to crawl along the floor, close to walls, which will make breathing easier and provide direction. Before opening any door, place a hand an inch from the door near the top to see if it is hot. Be prepared to close the door quickly at the first sign of fire. All fires, regardless of their size, which are extinguished by school personnel, require a call to the Fire Department to indicate that the "fire is out".

#### **Within School Building**

#### **PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Sound the fire alarm to implement EVACUATION of the building.
- Immediately EVACUATE the school using the primary or alternate fire routes.
- Notify the Fire Department (call 911).
- Direct search and rescue team to be sure all students and personnel have left the building.
- Ensure that access roads are kept open for emergency vehicles.
- Notify LCER CEO of situation.
- Notify appropriate utility company of suspected breaks in utility lines or pipes.
- If needed, notify parents for OFF-SITE EVACUATION.
- Do not allow staff and students to return to the building until the Fire Department declares that it is safe to do so.

#### **STAFF ACTIONS:**

- EVACUATE students from the building using primary or alternate fire routes Take emergency backpack and student kits. Maintain control of the students a safe distance from the fire and firefighting equipment.
- Take attendance. Report missing students to the Principal/designee and emergency response personnel.
- Maintain supervision of students until the Fire Department determines it is safe to return to the school building.



## **Flooding**

Flooding could threaten the safety of students and staff whenever storm water or other sources of water threaten to inundate school grounds or buildings. Flooding may occur if a water pipe breaks or prolonged rainfall causes urban streams to rise. Flooding may also occur as a result of damage to water distribution systems such as failure of a dam or levee. If weather-related, an alert message will be broadcast over the weather radio station.

### **PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:**

- Issue STAND BY instruction. Determine if evacuation is required.
- Notify local police department of intent to EVACUATE, the location of the safe evacuation site and the route to be taken to that site.
- Delegate a search team to assure that all students have been evacuated.
- Issue Off Site Evacuation instruction if students will be evacuated to a safer location by means of buses and cars.
- Post a notice on the office door stating where the school has relocated and inform the LCER CEO.
- Monitor AM radio weather station 960 for flood information.
- Notify LCER CEO of school status and action taken.
- Do not allow staff and students to return to the building until proper authorities have determined that it is safe to do so.

### **STAFF ACTIONS:**

- If warranted, EVACUATE students using evacuation plan. Take the class roster, emergency backpack and student comfort kits. Take attendance before leaving the campus.
- Remain with students throughout the evacuation process.
- Upon arrival at the safe site, take attendance. Report any missing students to Principal/site administrator and emergency response personnel.
- Do not return to school building until it has been inspected and determined safe by property authorities.

## **Loss or Failure Of Utilities**

This procedure addresses situations involving a loss of water, power or other utility on school grounds. This procedure should also be used in the event of the discovery of a gas leak, an exposed electrical line, or a break in sewer lines.

### **Procedure:**

1. If water or an electrical line is broken, an effort should be made to turn off water or power to the affected area and notify the Principal or designee immediately.
2. Upon notice of loss of utilities, the Principal or designee will initiate appropriate Immediate Response Actions, which may include SHELTER-IN-PLACE, or EVACUATE BUILDING.
3. The Principal or designee will notify the appropriate utility company and will provide the location and nature of emergency. Appropriate personnel will also be notified at the discretion of the Principal or designee.
4. The Principal or designee will notify the Lewis Center of the loss of utility service.
5. As needed, school emergency supplies will be utilized to compensate for the loss of a utility.
6. If the loss of utilities may generate a risk of explosion, such as a gas leak, please refer to that section.
7. In addition to the procedures listed above, the Incident Commander will implement the following plans in the event utilities are disrupted.
  - A. Plan for a Loss of Water:
    - Toilets: 5 gallon buckets with shower curtains in each classroom.
    - Bottled Water will be delivered to classrooms as needed.

B. Plan for a Loss of Electricity:

- Emergency Light: Flashlight in each classroom.
- Generators are located on each campus.

C. Plan for a loss of Communication

- Telephone Service:
- Administrators carry cellular phones.
- Administrators and CDO's (proctors) carry radios.

**Motor Vehicle Crash**

A motor vehicle crash may result in a fuel or chemical spill on school property. If the crash results in a utility interruption, refer to the section on Utility Failure.

PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:

- Notify police and fire department (call 911).
- Determine immediate response procedures, which may include EVACUATION, or OFF-SITE EVACUATION which may include the use of busses or alternate transportation.
- Arrange for first aid treatment and removal of injured occupants from building.
- Secure area to prevent unauthorized access until the public safety officials (police, sheriff, fire department) arrive.
- Ensure that students and staff remain at a safe distance from the crash.
- Account for all building occupants and determine extent of injuries.
- Notify LCER CEO.

STAFF ACTIONS:

- Notify Principal.
- Move students away from immediate vicinity of the crash.
- EVACUATE students to a safe assembly area away from the crash scene. Take class roster/name tags and emergency backpack.
- Check school site to assure that all students have evacuated.
- Take attendance at the assembly area.
- Report missing students to the principal /designee and emergency response personnel.
- Maintain control of the students a safe distance from the crash site.
- Care for the injured, if any.
- Escort students back to the to the school site when emergency response officials have determined it is safe to return to the building.

## Psychological Trauma

Crisis management refers to actions during and after any emergency that may have a psychological impact on students and staff, such as an act of violence; the death of a student or staff member; an earthquake or other natural disaster; a serious environmental problem; or ethnic and racial tensions. Emergencies like those described above usually produce one or more of the following conditions:

- Temporary disruption of regular school functions and routines. Significant interference with the ability of students and staff to focus on learning.
- Physical and/or psychological injury to students and staff.
- Concentrated attention from the community and news media.

As a result of such emergencies, students and staff may exhibit a variety of psychological reactions. As soon as the physical safety of those involved has been insured, attention must turn to meet the emotional and psychological needs of students and staff.

#### Procedure:

- The School Administrator will establish the Psychological First Aid Team, which has the primary responsibility for providing necessary assistance after all types of crises.
- The Psychological First Aid Team will assess the range of crisis intervention services needed during and following an emergency.
- The Psychological First Aid Team will provide direct intervention services.
- If there is a need for additional assistance, the Principal or designee will notify the Apple Valley Unified School District Superintendent.
- The Psychological First Aid Team will advise and assist the Principal to restore regular school functions as efficiently and as quickly as possible.
- In performing their duties, the Psychological First Aid Team members will limit exposure to scenes of trauma, injury and death.
- The Psychological First Aid Team will provide ongoing assessment of needs and follow-ups services as required.

#### SUICIDE

While psychological distress can be caused by a traumatic event, students may also display emotional distress through suicidal or self-harming actions. The school site does not provide direct medical support for students; however, we do work to identify signs and signals that leads to family communication and recommendations/referrals to support services. When a student vocalizes a concern, staff will work through a protocol to determine the gravity of the situation and student endangerment.

#### SUICIDE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND POSTVENTION:

The AAE recognizes that youth suicide is a serious problem across the state of California, where an average of two young people under 25 die by suicide every week and as many as one out of five students have seriously considered suicide in the last year. The AAE recognizes that, as The California Strategic Plan on Suicide Prevention: Every Californian is Part of the Solution states, that a full range of strategies, starting from prevention and early intervention, should be targeted to Californians of all ages. The AAE believes that the school plays a unique and important role in the prevention of youth suicide in our community. These policies and procedures outline the AAE's approach to youth suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention. This policy shall be available to all staff and reviewed and updated at the beginning of each school year.

#### PREVENTION

The AAE recognizes that suicide prevention is most effective when students, staff, parents, and community members have adequate information about prevention. With this in mind, the following will be provided \*\*annually depending on staff and family retention\*\*:

#### FOR STAFF

Review of these policies and procedures before or near the beginning of the school year. Training for all teachers, school health staff, and other staff, including the following information:

- Background on the scope of the problem of youth suicide
- Information about the signs of stress and depression and where to send students for help
- Information on risk factors for suicide
- Information about signs of suicidal thinking
- Information about how to intervene when a student presents signs of suicidal thinking
- Access to written copies of this policy in hard copy in main office, intranet, school website, and student handbooks.
- The AAE will follow the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's Safe Messaging Guidelines, available at:

<http://www.sprc.org/sites/sprc.org/files/library/SafeMessagingrevised.pdf>, in suicide prevention education with staff.

#### FOR STUDENTS

Developmentally-appropriate, student-centered education materials will be integrated into the curriculum of all K-12 health classes. The content of these age-appropriate materials will include:

- the importance of safe and healthy choices and coping strategies,
- how to recognize risk factors and warning signs of mental disorders and suicide in oneself and others,
- help-seeking strategies for oneself or others, including how to engage school resources and refer friends for help. In addition, schools may provide supplemental small group suicide prevention programming for students. At least once per semester, (school support staff such as school counselors or health staff) will visit students in their classrooms to remind them of resources within the school. The AAE recognizes that it is not a safe practice to teach suicide prevention in assemblies or other large gatherings and that prevention education should be taught in classrooms or other small group settings.

#### FOR STUDENTS' FAMILIES

In partnership with the PTC and/or other parent/community organizations, an annual training including the following:

- Background on the scope of the problem of youth suicide
- Information about the signs of stress and depression and a parent's role in helping
- Information on risk factors for suicide
- Information about signs of suicidal thinking
- Information about parenting and communication strategies for suicide prevention
- Information about when and how to intervene when signs of suicidal thinking appear
- Resources in the school and community for families that need help
- Written information about suicide prevention will be included in the packet sent to students' families at the beginning of the school year.
- The AAE will follow the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's Safe Messaging Guidelines.

#### INTERVENTION

From time to time, it will come to a staff member's attention that a student is experiencing a crisis that may include suicidal thinking or behavior. The following procedures will be observed when this occurs: Assessing the scope of the crisis and the risk of suicide. If the information comes directly from the student, expressed either verbally or through behavior, the staff member will obtain basic information from the student about the crisis. The staff member will then share this information verbally with a member of the student support team, in the presence of the student and with the student's participation whenever possible. Student Support Team includes: School Psychologist, School Counselor, Elementary, and Secondary Vice Principals.

If the information comes from another person such as a peer or a parent, the staff member will refer the situation to a student support team member, who will immediately schedule a meeting with the student. The support team member will further discuss the situation with the student to obtain information about the crisis and assess their needs. If the student reveals mental health concerns and/or suicidal ideation, the support team member will perform a suicide risk assessment using a recommended tool.

#### RESPONSE TO IDENTIFIED SCHOOL RISK:

If there is immediate risk of harm to the student's self or others (for example, a suicide attempt in progress) the support team member will contact the student's parent or guardian, as stated in the Parental Notification and Involvement section, and will assist the family with urgent referral. When appropriate, this may include calling emergency services or bringing the student to the local Emergency Department, but in most cases, will involve setting up an outpatient mental health or primary care appointment and communicating the reason for referral to the healthcare provider. Staff will ask the student's parent or guardian for written permission to discuss the student's health with outside care, if appropriate. \*\*The student must not be left alone while awaiting first responders.\*\*

If there is high risk, the support team member must remain with the student and provide a safe, calming environment. The support team member will notify the student's guardian(s) that they should come to the school and will notify the building administrator. If the student's guardian(s) are unavailable or unable to come to the school: A student age 13 or older may independently consent for a range of mental health services (see below). If the student is 12 or under, the student may remain under observation while continued efforts are made to contact her or his guardian or emergency contact. If a responsible adult cannot be located within a reasonable amount of time, the student may be transported to the nearest ER for evaluation. With the student's guardian or, for students 13 or older, without them, the support team member may call the local crisis line to request a crisis evaluation. The

guardian may instead choose to bring the child to the nearest hospital for evaluation. The building administrator must be notified if the student will be leaving school grounds.

If there is moderate risk, the support team member must remain with the student and provide a safe, calming environment. The student's guardian(s) will be contacted to come to the school before the end of the school day. In the event that the guardian(s) cannot be reached or are unsupportive: a student age 13 or older may independently consent for a range of mental health services (see below). If the student is 12 or under, the student may remain under observation while continued efforts are made to contact her or his guardian or emergency contact. With the student's guardian or, for students 13 or older, without them, the support team member may call the local crisis line to request a crisis evaluation. The guardian may instead choose to bring the child to the nearest ER for evaluation. The building administrator must be notified if the student will be leaving school grounds. A student at moderate risk who is willing to commit in the presence of her or his guardian to staying safe until the next school day will create a safety plan. This process may be revisited at the beginning of the next school day and a new safety plan drafted.

If there is low risk, the support team member will work with the student to describe the situation to her or his guardian(s). The student will commit to staying safe until the next school day and will create a safety plan. This process may be revisited at the beginning of the next school day and a new safety plan drafted. If a student is remaining in school but has missed class time or the crisis is affecting their school performance, the support team member will discuss with the student and, if applicable, the student's guardian what should be shared with the student's teachers. This may include the nature of the crisis, accommodations made in the safety plan, and what support the student will need. This information should be shared with the student's teachers in a confidential manner that will not be seen or overheard by other students or staff.

#### OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUICIDE ATTEMPTS:

If a staff member becomes aware of a suicide attempt by a student that is in progress in an out-of-school location, the staff member will: Call the police and/or emergency medical services, such as 911. Inform the student's parent or guardian. Inform the school suicide prevention coordinator and principal. If the student contacts the staff member and expresses suicidal ideation, the staff member should maintain contact with the student (either in person, online, or on the phone). The staff member should then enlist the assistance of another person to contact the police while maintaining verbal engagement with the student.

#### RE-ENTRY:

If a student has missed one or more days of school because of a suicidal crisis (for example, because of inpatient hospitalization or emergency expulsion, the student's re-entry to school must begin with a re-entry meeting to ensure the student's readiness for return to school. A school employed mental health professional or other designee will be identified to coordinate with the student, their parent or guardian, and any outside mental health care providers. The parent or guardian will provide documentation from a mental health care provider that the student has undergone examination and that they are no longer a danger to themselves or others. During the meeting, the team will discuss how to support the student in phasing back into normal school life. Depending on the student's situation, this could include accommodations such as beginning with a lighter course load or workload. The designated staff person will periodically check in with student to help the student readjust to the school community and address any ongoing concerns.

#### PARENTAL NOTIFICATION AND INVOLVEMENT

In situations where a student is assessed at risk for suicide or has made a suicide attempt, the student's parent or guardian will be informed as soon as practicable by the principal, designee, or mental health professional. If the student has exhibited any kind of suicidal behavior, the parent or guardian should be counseled on "means restriction," limiting the child's access to mechanisms for carrying out a suicide attempt. Staff will also seek parental permission to communicate with outside mental health care providers regarding their child. Through discussion with the student, the principal or school employed mental health professional will assess whether there is further risk of harm due to parent or guardian notification. If the principal, designee, or mental health professional believes, in their professional capacity, that contacting the parent or guardian would endanger the health or well-being of the student, they may delay such contact as appropriate. If contact is delayed, the reasons for the delay should be documented.

#### POSTVENTION

The AAE recognizes that suicide is a crisis that affects the entire school community. In the event of a student's death by suicide, it is critical that the school's response be swift, consistent, and intended to protect the student body and community from suicide contagion.

#### Development and Implementation of an Action Plan:

The crisis team will develop an action plan to guide school response following a death by suicide. A meeting of the crisis team to implement the action plan should take place immediately following news of the suicide death. The action plan may include the following steps: Verify the death. Staff will confirm the death and determine the cause of death through communication with a coroner's office, local hospital, the student's parent or guardian, or police department. Even when a case is perceived as being an obvious instance of suicide, it should not be labeled as such until after a cause of death ruling has been made. If the cause of death has been confirmed as suicide but the parent or guardian will not permit the cause of death to be disclosed, the school will not share the cause of death but will use the opportunity to discuss suicide prevention with students.

#### Assess the situation.

The crisis team will meet to prepare the postvention response, to consider how severely the death is likely to affect other students, and to determine which students are most likely to be affected. The crisis team will also consider how recently other traumatic events have occurred within the school community and the time of year of the suicide. If the death occurred during a school vacation, the need for or scale of postvention activities may be reduced.

#### Share information.

Before the death is officially classified as a suicide by the coroner's office, the death can and should be reported to staff, students, and parents/guardians with an acknowledgement that its cause is unknown. Inform the faculty that a sudden death has occurred, preferably in a staff meeting. Write a statement for staff members to share with students. The statement should include the basic facts of the death and known funeral arrangements (without providing details of the suicide method), recognition of the sorrow the news will cause, and information about the resources available to help students cope with their grief. Public address system announcements and school-wide assemblies should be avoided. The crisis team may prepare a letter (with the input and permission from the student's parent or guardian) to send home with students that includes facts about the death, information about what the school is doing to support students, the warning signs of suicidal behavior, and a list of resources available.

#### Avoid suicide contagion.

It should be explained in the staff meeting described above that one purpose of trying to identify and give services to other high risk students is to prevent another death. The crisis team will work with teachers to identify students who are most likely to be significantly affected by the death. In the staff meeting, the crisis team will review suicide warning signs and procedures for reporting students who generate concern.

#### Initiate support services.

Students identified as being more likely to be affected by the death will be assessed by a school employed mental health professional to determine the level of support needed. The crisis team will coordinate support services for students and staff in need of individual and small group counseling as needed. In concert with parents or guardians, crisis team members will refer to community mental healthcare providers to ensure a smooth transition from the crisis intervention phase to meeting underlying or ongoing mental health needs.

#### Develop memorial plans.

The AAE recognizes that it is not a safe practice to hold a candlelight vigil, hold a memorial service, or erect a permanent memorial (such as a plaque, bench, or tree) at the school in the case of a suicide, as these practices could contribute to sensationalization of suicide or students considering suicide a means to gain admiration or attention. Acceptable "living memorials" that decrease the risk of suicide contagion include: A student-led suicide prevention initiative supervised by one or more faculty members; A donation or fundraiser for a local crisis service or mental health care provider, such as:

- Participation as a school in a local suicide awareness event;
- Hosting a suicide prevention or postvention training for students, staff, and/or families;
- Placing printed prevention resources in the school.

#### External Communication

The school principal or designee will be the sole media spokesperson. Staff will refer all inquiries from the media directly to the spokesperson. The spokesperson will:

- Keep the LCER suicide prevention coordinator and CEO informed of school actions relating to the death.
- Prepare a statement for the media including the facts of the death, postvention plans, and available resources. The statement will not include confidential information, speculation about victim motivation, means of suicide, or personal family information.
- Answer all media inquiries. If a suicide is to be reported by news media, the spokesperson should encourage reporters not to make it a front-page story, not to use pictures of the suicide victim, not to use the word suicide in the caption of the story, not to describe the method of suicide, and not to use the phrase "suicide epidemic" – as this may elevate the risk of suicide contagion. They should

also be encouraged not to link bullying to suicide and not to speculate about the reason for suicide. Media should be asked to offer the community information on suicide risk factors, warning signs, and resources available.

#### Days After Postvention

Well after the loss of a student to suicide, the school will be mindful of anniversaries, such as the anniversary of the death, the student's birthday, the date the student would have graduated, etc. Students identified as at risk will receive extra support and observation during these times as well.

#### **Suspected Contamination of Food or Water**

This procedure applies if there is evidence of tampering with food packaging, observation of suspicious individuals in proximity to food or water supplies or suspicion of possible food/water contamination. Indicators of contamination may include unusual odor, color and/or taste or multiple individuals with unexplained nausea, vomiting or other illnesses.

#### PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:

Call 911.

Isolate suspected contaminated food/water to prevent consumption. Restrict access to the area.

Maintain a log of affected students and staff and their systems, the food/water suspected to be contaminated, the quantity and character of products consumed and other pertinent information.

Provide list of potentially affected students and staff to responding authorities.

Provide staff with information on possible poisonous materials in the building.

Notify LCER CEO of situation and number of students and staff affected.

Confer with Department of Health and Human Services before the resumption of normal school activities.

Prepare communication for families advising them of situation and actions taken.

#### STAFF ACTIONS:

Notify principal/site administrator.

Call the Poison Center Hotline 1-800-222-1222.

Administer first aid as directed by poison information center.

Seek additional medical attention as needed.

#### PREVENTATIVE MEASURES:

Keep poisonous materials in a locked and secure location.

Post the Poison Control Center emergency number in the front office, school clinic and on all phones that can call outside.

Post the names of building personnel who have special paramedic, first aid training or other special lifesaving or life-sustaining training.

#### **Tactical Responses to Criminal Incidents**

##### **Unlawful Demonstration or Walkout**

An Unlawful Demonstration/Walkout is any unauthorized assemblage on or off campus by staff or students for the purpose of protest or demonstration.

#### Procedure

1. Upon indication that an unlawful demonstration or walkout is about to begin, personnel should immediately notify the Principal or designee.
2. The Principal or designee will initiate appropriate Immediate Response Actions.
3. The Principal or designee will call 911 to request assistance and will provide the exact location and nature of emergency.



4. The Emergency Response Team will immediately proceed to the Main Gate to control student ingress and egress. Each person entering or leaving the campus shall be required to sign his/her name, and record address, telephone number and time entered or departed. The Main Gate should not be locked down, as a blocked entrance may create a serious hazard for students leaving or attempting to re-enter the campus.
5. If students leave the campus, the Request Gate Team, in consultation with the Principal or designee, will designate appropriate staff members to accompany them. These staff members will attempt to guide and control the actions of students while offsite.
6. Students not participating in the demonstration or walkout should be kept within their classrooms until further notice by the Principal or designee. Teachers will close and lock classroom doors. Students and staff should be protected from flying glass in the event windows are broken, by closing drapes and/or blinds.
7. The Documentation staff member should keep accurate record of events, conversations and actions.
8. The Principal or designee should proceed in good judgment on basis of police or other legal advice, in taking action to control and resolve the situation.
9. The Principal or designee will notify parents of the incident, as appropriate.