

Safety and Security at Spurger I.S.D.

Spurger I.S.D. is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students, staff, and visitors. Our comprehensive security program addresses prevention, intervention, student assistance, preparedness, emergency response, and facility security.

Spurger I.S.D. Safety Programs Include:

- The District's Emergency Operations Plan is approved by the Board of Trustees each year.
- Each campus has a Crisis Management Plan to address emergencies and a Crisis Management Team to respond to emergencies and plan for emergencies that might arise.
- The District contracts with a local constable to provide security services district-wide. This School Resource Officer (SRO) works diligently to establish a good rapport and relationship between students and law enforcement. The SRO's presence provides a deterrent to undesirable activity and their accessibility helps resolve situations quickly and offers a counseling ear to students. Additionally, Spurger High School Principal, Mr. Ronnie Ford, is a part-time Tyler County Sheriff's Deputy; providing an extra layer of law enforcement visibility and protection for all.
- Each campus in the district practices monthly fire evacuation drills as mandated by law. Additionally, each campus routinely participates in additional safety drills including: severe weather, lockdown, shelter in place, and site evacuation as prescribed by the district's Emergency Operations Plan.
- Campus staff members participate in on-going safety and security training sessions specific to each individual campus.
- Periodic safety inspections and audits are conducted throughout the district to identify problems before they become an issue.
- Portable radios are issued to all administrators, SRO's, and office staff to communicate about what is happening anywhere on the campus at any given time. They are also available for teachers to take to the playground in case of an emergency, a concern, or the need for nursing care.
- Fire alarm systems protect all district campuses. Fire protection systems and extinguishers are continually being monitored and inspected to comply with local, state, and national codes as required.
- Each campus utilizes the Raptor Visitor Management System to instantly screen out registered sex offenders, while managing visitors and volunteers on campus.
- A Criminal Background History is performed on all job applicants, all persons who volunteer in the schools, and on employees of companies doing business with SISD.

- K9 Drug interdiction services are used at unannounced times on campuses, whereby specially-trained dogs inspect schools and parking lots for the presence of drugs, alcohol, or explosive devices.
- Security cameras have been installed at the schools to monitor all high traffic/public areas. These closed circuit television systems help administrators monitor activities and to act as a deterrent to criminal activity.
- The school nurse, coaches, and other staff members are CPR and first aid certified.
- Spurger ISD has the services of a full-time nurse.
- Privacy: Certain information about students is considered directory information and will be released to anyone who follows the procedures for requesting the information unless the parent or guardian notifies the district in writing. (See Student Handbook)
- The district has six (6) AED's located throughout the district as a safety and welfare measure. Proper use of AED's is a part of all CPR classes. Every coach and bus driver in Spurger ISD is certified in CPR. In addition, a school nurse does annual training with all campus staff on appropriate use of the AED.

Emergency Operations Plan

The objectives of the Emergency Operations Plan are to protect the lives and well-being of students and staff through the prompt and timely response of trained school personnel should an emergency occur at school. Spurger I.S.D. understands that the safety and security of all students and staff is the first priority in any situation. An emergency can and may occur at any time. Spurger I.S.D. believes it is of the utmost importance to be prepared for any and all hazards that may affect our schools.

Campus Emergency and Response Plans

Spurger I.S.D. is committed to the safety and security of its students, staff, and visitors. Spurger I.S.D. maintains an Emergency Operations Plan which outlines the district's approach to emergency management and operations. It provides general guidance of emergency management activities and an overview of the district's methods of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

As a parent, it is always concerning to find out that your child's school has experienced an emergency during the school day. Often rumors begin to spread about what may or may not be happening at school. These rumors can heighten fears and frighten parents. The natural instinct is to call the school to find out what is taking place.

In an emergency, scores of call begin coming into school. When this occurs, the phone lines are quickly jammed and campus administrators have difficulty placing necessary calls. If an emergency situation arises, campus staff will do their best to notify parents via telephone and/or

the School Messenger System. However, some emergencies do not always allow time to send out notifications to parents. Regardless of the situation at hand, the Spurger I.S.D. staff will do everything possible to keep students safe. Please keep in mind that our campuses regularly conduct Evacuation, Site Evacuation, Lockdown, Tornado/Severe Weather, Reverse Evacuation, Shelter In Place

Evacuation

In the event a fire, explosion, smoke smell, gas odor, fire alarm, or bomb threat occurs on campus, all students are evacuated from the building until an “all clear” is issued. Once it is deemed safe to reenter the building, students and staff will return to their regular activities.

Site Evacuation

Relocation: In the interest of safety for students and staff, the administration may direct that one or more campuses or sites be relocated to a designated relocation site. ALL students at the affected school(s) or site(s) will be transported via district transportation. Students will not be allowed to leave the premises in private vehicles. District administrators will be available to assist campus administrators at the relocation sites. Students will only be released from the reunification site to an adult listed on the student’s emergency information card that has the authorization to accept custody of the student. Proper identification will be required.

Lockdown

There are two possible situations that could cause a campus to go into Lockdown:

1. An immediate threat to the school population or personnel
2. An immediate potential threat in the community surrounding the school

If Lockdown procedures are activated, all doors, windows, classrooms, and administrative offices are locked. Students and staff members remain in their locked classrooms and offices until the “all clear” is given. Under Lockdown procedures, **NO ONE** will be allowed to enter or leave the building. Law enforcement will assist the campus if necessary. In the event of a lockdown, parent and community members are asked NOT to approach the campus. Any parents who attempts to gain access to a campus in lockdown will be referred to an alternate waiting site until the Lockdown has ended.

Tornado/Severe Weather

This procedure will be utilized based upon the severity of an approaching storm or severe current weather conditions. Classes will move to pre-designated safe areas and follow instructions from teachers and staff members. Students and staff will assume a protective posture which consists of kneeling and facing an interior wall with their head down and hands protecting the back of the neck and head.

Reverse Evacuation

A Reverse Evacuation is used when students are not in class and must be brought into the classroom quickly. Examples: suspicious/threatening person or other potentially harmful condition outside of the building.

Shelter In Place

A Shelter in Place procedure may be implemented when a situation occurs that may be a hazard to health or is life threatening. It can be used when it is safer to keep the students inside the building rather than expose them to possible harm by allowing them to leave the building. Tornado warning, wildfires, a chemical release or spill, or other environmental hazard may all trigger a Shelter In Place at schools securing the students and the buildings.

Shelter In Place means that all windows and doors are locked and the air conditioning system is shut down to keep toxic hazards from entering the school. For the safety and security of all students and staff, **NO ONE** will be allowed to enter or leave a building that has activated Shelter In Place procedures. This means that parents will not be able to pick up students from the school. To open the doors at any time would jeopardize the health and safety of students and staff. Therefore, it is safer to keep students inside the building rather than expose them to possible harm by allowing them to leave the building.

Once the “all clear” is given, students and staff members will return to their regular activities. Keep in mind that if you live near a campus that is sheltering in place, for your safety, you should shelter in place at home.

Parent-Student Reunification

In the event that a campus must be completely evacuated to a designated relocation site, Spurger I.S.D. will notify the parents of the campus involved through the School Messenger Telephone Notification System as well as through local television and radio stations. The message will include information as to the location of the students and the Parent-Student Reunification point.

The following procedures will be adhered to:

- Only those persons listed on the student’s Emergency Information Card will be allowed to pick up the student. Those persons picking up a student must have proper identification before a student will be released.
- Upon arrival at the relocation site, parents should:
 - Park in the designated parent parking area being careful not to block entrances and/or exits
 - Report to the Parent-Student Reunification table, do not attempt to enter the building
 - Present proper identification to the administrator in charge at the Parent-Student Reunification table and inform them of which student(s) you are there to pick up

- The administrator will then check the student's Emergency Information Card to verify authorization
- Upon authentication, the student will be sent for and escorted to the table
- The authorized person will then be asked to sign the Emergency Reunification Form and the student will be dismissed.

The purpose of this plan is to make certain in a crisis situation that all of our students are safe and are reunited with the proper parent/guardian. We understand that this can be a time consuming process during an already stressful event and we respectfully request that you remain calm and patient. Again, the safety of your child is the most important issue at this time.

Staff Development Training

The district's staff prepares for emergencies by participating in drills throughout the school year. Crisis training is woven into the district's staff development program. District facilities are also available after school hours to county first responders for drills that familiarize emergency personnel with each of our campuses.

Environmental Health and Safety

Spurger I.S.D. is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all student and staff. Spurger I.S.D. employs the nationally recognized concept of Integrated Pest Management when dealing with pest problems throughout all facilities. IPM simply involves using common sense, least toxic methods and physical controls in dealing with pest problems. This may take the form of physical barriers to pests, cultural controls of food products, general sanitation and periodic low toxicity pesticide applications. All persons applying pesticides at campuses are required to receive special training in pesticide application and pest control.

Weather Related Closings and Delays

ALWAYS ASSUME THAT SCHOOL WILL OPEN AS USUAL

The following information is provided to help parents understand how the district determines whether or not to hold school or delay opening school on bad weather days. Please note that student and staff safety is our first priority. The decision to call off school is a very important one and is made only after thorough consideration.

The existence of inclement weather may necessitate a delayed opening or cancellation of the school day. When there is cause for concern, Spurger I.S.D. has designated several staff members who begin driving the roads in all areas of the district around 5:00 a.m. in order to assess road conditions. The Superintendent will hear reports from those individuals and make a decision shortly around 6:00 a.m. In addition, we call other area school districts to find out what they may be doing about school closings or delays. Sometimes it is very clear what the decision will be the night before, most of the time however the decision needs to be made that morning.

Media Announcements

Staff and students are advised to listen to local radio and television stations for current news about inclement weather, school closings or delays of any nature. Announcements will be made on area radio and television stations including:

Radio Stations

KLVI 560 AM

KAYD 101.7 FM

KYKR 95.1 FM

KCOL 92.5 FM

Television Stations

KFDM Channel 6

KBMT Channel 12

KBTV Channel 4

KJAC Channel 12.2 or 50

Weather Notifications

If a decision must be made as to school closing or a late opening, announcements will be posted on the district's website (www.spurgerisd.org), announced via the district's School Messenger System, and broadcast on area radio and television stations. Appointed staff will communicate only closings or delays to the local media outlets. Broadcast stations will be asked to announce any changes to the regular district schedule. Otherwise, schools will be open as scheduled.

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